

STARS AND STRIPES.®

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stripes.com

Free to Deployed Areas

ARE THEY READY?



HEATH DRUZIN/Stars and Stripes

Coalition soldiers mark the transfer of Camp Mike Spann to Afghan control at a ceremony on April 27. The camp, which opened in 2006, is one of many the U.S.-led International Security Assistance Force is closing or turning over to Afghan security forces as the deadline approaches for all foreign combat troops to leave the country.

By **HEATH DRUZIN**
Stars and Stripes

Transfer troubles show difficulties of Afghan exit

CAMP MIKE SPANN, Afghanistan — American soldiers loaded their rifles, donned their body armor, briefed for a mission and piled into two 14-ton armored vehicles, gunners scanning from the turrets for potential threats.

But they were not on a mission into a Taliban stronghold. The Americans were heading to the

Leaving Afghanistan

Afghan side of their own base; the potential hostile troops were the Afghans with whom U.S. soldiers are meant to work “shoulder to shoulder.”

As officers stepped to the microphone to laud friendship between nations at a ceremony marking the end of the interna-

tional military presence at Camp Mike Spann, a U.S. sniper team kept watch from a nearby rooftop, one of the “guardian angel” units that sprang out of a rash of killings of foreign troops by their Afghan counterparts that permanently dented trust between allies. Such attacks escalated in 2012, when 57 foreign troops were killed in 41 attacks, according to a Brookings Institution tally. The year before, 35 were killed. The num-

ber dropped last year to 14, but the continuing threat was underscored by the shooting in April of two Associated Press journalists by an Afghan policeman.

As the U.S.-led International Security Assistance Force pulls out its combat troops, the overarching message is that after more than 12 years of war, Afghans are ready to take over security responsibility, bases and equipment.

SEE EXIT ON PAGE 4

Sexual assault allegations forever changed the lives of 4 midshipmen

By **ANNYS SHIN**
The Washington Post

EIGHT MILE, Ala. — Eric Graham had pictured ship selection night at the U.S. Naval Academy many times.

He imagined hearing his name and the ship he'd serve on — the reward for almost four years of demanding classes, grueling football practices and regimented Navy life. His parents, in Ala-

bama, would be streaming it live on a Navy website.

But that was before Graham became one of three former Navy football players accused of sexually assaulting a female classmate at an

off-campus party. Before his photograph — face somber, uniform brass buttons polished, American flag draped behind him — popped up everywhere from ESPN to The New York Times in reports about

the charges against him and his former teammates, Tra'vies Bush and Joshua Tate. Before Graham's aspirations to become a naval officer were derailed.

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New effort underway to grant Purple Hearts to Fort Hood victims

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QUOTE OF THE DAY

"You really think they're going to allow a \$200 million airplane to get down in the weeds where it's extremely vulnerable?"

— Retired Lt. Col. William Smith, who flew the A-10 in Iraq and Afghanistan, speaking of the F-35

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2. Marine Corps Harrier crashes in Arizona desert; pilot slightly hurt
3. Is video proof that aliens hate the Taliban?
4. Nine countries removed from R&R leave eligibility list
5. Military officials raided Marine law offices, may have compromised cases

COMING SOON

Science & Medicine

Brain chip researchers look ahead to "bionic age"



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MILITARY

Purple Heart for Fort Hood victims?

By RICHARD SIMON
Los Angeles Times

WASHINGTON — Five years after the 2009 shooting rampage at Fort Hood, Texas, a new push is underway to make the victims eligible for the Purple Heart.

But the idea is drawing opposition from, among others, a group representing Purple Heart recipients, who liken the attack to workplace violence rather than combat.

The drive to recognize Fort Hood victims with the Purple Heart is being driven by Texans in Congress.

"As we know too well, the battlefield in the war on terror is not limited to foreign lands," said Rep. Mike Conaway, R-Texas, who sought the legislation. Another Texas Republican, Rep. John Carter, whose district includes Fort Hood, said the legislation would provide "the benefits, the recognition, and hopefully some closure to the victims and their families."

The Purple Heart is awarded to members of the military killed or wounded in combat. The House Armed Services Committee last week included in a broad defense bill a measure that would make members of the military eligible for the medal if killed or wounded in an attack "inspired or motivated" by a U.S. State Department-designated foreign terrorist organization.

According to a Pentagon spokesman, Purple Hearts may be awarded to military personnel killed or wounded as a result of an "international terrorist attack."

But intelligence reports, investigations and studies found that Maj. Nidal Malik Hasan acted as a "lone wolf," the spokesman said.

"While there has been no intelligence or findings to date that indicate Hasan was under the direction or control of a foreign element, we stand ready to act accordingly should any evidence to the contrary be presented," the spokesman added.

The Defense Department previously expressed concern about such legislation while Hasan was on trial for the killing of 13 people and the wounding of more than 30. But the Army psychiatrist was convicted and sentenced to death in August for the attack.

Prospects for the legislation



PHOTOS BY DALLAS MORNING NEWS/MCT

Soldiers salute as Taps is played during a memorial service on Nov. 10, 2009, for the victims of the Fort Hood shootings in Killeen, Texas.



The scar from the gunshot wound on Patrick Zeigler's head is clearly visible where a custom-fitted plate now sits over the fist-sized hole in his skull. Zeigler was shot four times by Army Maj. Nidal Hasan on Nov. 5, 2009, during the massacre and was one of the most seriously wounded. He lost 20 percent of his brain matter and the use of his left arm and leg.

remain uncertain in the Senate. The Senate Armed Services Committee is expected to consider the issue this month. Separate from that measure, Sen. John Cornyn, R-Texas, introduced a bill called the Honoring the Fort Hood Heroes Act. It has drawn only 15 co-sponsors.

The issue has divided veterans groups. The American Legion passed a resolution last year calling for the 2009 shootings to be classified as an act of terrorism and for the soldiers killed or wounded to be awarded "all honors and benefits due to battlefield combat," spokesman Marty Callaghan said.

Veterans of Foreign Wars found in an informal survey of 726 of its members a "deep divide between Purple Heart recipients and

non-recipients" of any proposed change to the criteria for awarding the medal, and as a result, opposes any change, said spokesman Joe Davis.

But the Military Order of the Purple Heart, an organization of about 45,000 Purple Heart recipients, opposes authorizing the medal for those attacked by "one of their fellow soldiers at Fort Hood, which was clearly a case of 'workplace violence,'" the group said in a statement.

Purple Hearts were awarded to military victims of the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks.

The 9/11 attacks were "clearly terrorist acts perpetrated by an organized foreign terrorist group," according to the Military Order of the Purple Heart. But the group said the criteria should not

be changed because of the shootings at Fort Hood and a military recruiting station in Little Rock, Ark., to "accommodate these clearly criminal actions."

A defense bill approved last year directed the Pentagon to review whether members of the military killed or wounded in the Fort Hood and Little Rock shootings qualify for the Purple Heart "under the criteria as members of the armed forces who were killed or wounded as a result of an act of an enemy of the United States."

A report is expected in late June.

Fort Hood victims and family members have filed suit against the U.S. government, seeking damages for deaths and injuries and to have the shootings designated as a terrorist attack.

DODDS SPORTS

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STARS AND STRIPES

MILITARY



DAVID WALLACE, THE ARIZONA REPUBLIC/AP

Sen. John McCain, left, R-Ariz., hugs Sherri Jordan as she holds a photograph of her husband, Manuel Acosta, during a forum Friday with veterans in Phoenix. Jordan said Acosta is a cancer patient who has not received adequate care from Phoenix VA Health Care System.

VA nurse on leave over email on how to 'game' treatment delays

By GREGG ZOROYA
USA Today

VA Secretary Eric Shinseki on Friday placed on administrative leave a nurse in a Wyoming medical center after seeing an email containing explicit directions on how to "game" the system and hide long delays in treating veterans for medical and mental health issues.

Shinseki last week promised "swift and appropriate" action if wait-time records were falsified as a widening scandal over treatment delays brought congressional action.

The nurse, David Newman, works at the Cheyenne VA Medical Center, which was investigated late last year by the Department of Veterans Affairs Office of Medical Inspector in connection with allegedly falsified wait-time records at a VA clinic in Fort Collins, Colo.

An email dated June 19, 2013, that appears to be drafted by Newman, a Cheyenne Medical Center telehealth coordinator, explained how to alter records to show that veterans saw doctors within a 14-day goal established by the VA.

"Yes, it is gaming the system a bit," the email said. "But you have to know the rules of the game you are playing, and when we exceed the 14-day measure, the front office gets very upset."

A copy of the email obtained by USA Today was provided to the VA on Friday. Within a few hours, Shinseki issued a statement saying that Newman had been placed on administrative leave and that the VA inspector general was being asked to investigate.

"VA takes any allegations about patient care or employee misconduct very seriously. If true, the behavior outlined in the email is unacceptable," Shinseki said.

The controversies in Cheyenne and Fort Collins are part of a broader pattern of delays in health care at VA hospitals that have been linked to 23 veteran deaths over the past three or four years. More recently, a retired VA doctor in Phoenix alleged that dozens of patients died while awaiting care at a VA hospital there and that wait-time records were falsified.

The email also explained how to "fix" existing records showing delayed instances of medical care. "You can still fix this and get off the bad boys list," the message advised.

The facts outlined in the message were largely investigated by the VA Office of Medical Inspector last year after a whistleblower complaint. The report examined operations both at the Fort Collins clinic and the Cheyenne hospital that oversees it.

In response to those findings,

a copy of which was provided to USA Today, VA officials this month said that no disciplinary action was taken despite conclusions by investigators that agency rules were violated and employees instructed at the clinic in how falsify records.

The VA said there was no "intentional violation" of policy and the supervisors were confused by the wait-time procedures.

Last week, with outrage building over the accumulating reports of delayed care and patient deaths, the nation's largest veteran organization, the American Legion, and a few members of Congress called on Shinseki to resign.

Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., who is not one of the members of Congress calling on Shinseki to resign, met with several veterans at a Friday town hall meeting He hinted at possible prosecution in the Phoenix cases.

"It's not a matter of resignations, it's a matter whether somebody goes to jail or not," said McCain, evoking thunderous applause from the crowd of more than 100 people.

McCain said veterans should be allowed to pick their health care providers outside the VA. However, he said that the VA serves a crucial role in treating things such as post-traumatic stress disorder and war wounds.

to two years before their contracts, plus any extensions, are supposed to expire.

Sailors not eligible to apply for voluntary separation include those with:

- Existing permanent change of station orders
- A nuclear rating
- An individual augmentee assignment
- An assignment to a Defense Department area that has not completed the tour requirement, including overseas tour extension incentive programs for which a benefit has been received.

From staff reports

DOD: Congress should rethink budget changes

By JON HARPER
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — The Pentagon called on Congress to change the \$600 billion defense bill that a powerful congressional committee recently approved, surprising given the fact that the Defense Department generally refuses to comment on pending legislation.

In response to a reporter's question about the legislation, Pentagon Press Secretary Rear Adm. John Kirby expressed Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel's unhappiness with the outcome.

"The secretary was certainly not pleased by the House Armed Services Committee markup of the budget," Kirby said Friday. "He firmly stands by — resolutely stands by the budget that we submitted because it was — because it was strategic in tone and because it was tied to a defense strategy that made sense ... for the kind of future we're going to face while accepting very real fiscal realities."

Military leaders had proposed cuts to troop benefits, older weapon systems and excess infrastructure in its budget submission earlier this year to pump more money into readiness and modernization during a time of spending constraints.

But lawmakers defied the Pentagon's requests. The Fiscal 2015 National Defense Authorization Act approved by the House Armed Services Committee on Thursday blocked several major Pentagon initiatives, including:

- Proposals to cap troop pay raises at 1 percent.
- Proposals to reduce subsidies to commissaries.
- Proposals to rein in health

care costs by requiring military families and retirees to pay more for health care.

■ The Air Force's plan to retire the A-10 Warthog fleet.

■ A new round of Base Realignment and Closure.

All of those cuts would have been politically unpopular.

The legislation has to pass several hurdles before it becomes law, and Hagel hopes that by the time the NDAA reaches President Barack Obama's desk, it will have been significantly modified to his liking.

"We're very early on in the process," Kirby said. "The secretary certainly hopes that when it gets to the Senate and into conference, that the Congress will prove capable of seeing the wisdom again in the decisions that we've made and (will be) willing to make those same tough choices and put national security first over parochial interests."

Kirby also suggested that Hagel might move to get rid of excess infrastructure without Congress' approval, if necessary.

"He continues to believe that another round of BRAC is necessary. We've got to reduce some of the infrastructure ... around the world but also here in the continental [United] States," Kirby said. "He would obviously prefer that that's the way forward is through another round of (congressionally approved) BRAC ... (but) there are some Title X authorities that he has to reduce infrastructure."

Kirby did not provide specifics about the authorities that Hagel could potentially use to close military facilities.

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9 countries cut from R&R list

Stars and Stripes

Starting in June, servicemembers who deploy to nine countries removed from eligibility for imminent danger pay will no longer receive rest-and-recuperation leave, according to an Air Force news release.

The countries, in the U.S. Central Command theater of operations, include Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan.

Due to a normal IDP recertification process completed in December 2013, servicemembers who deploy on 365-day deployments or PCS to these nine countries after June 1 will no longer be eligible for the R&R program," the Air Force release said, citing a Department of Defense letter dated

May 6. Servicemembers whose deployment began before June 1 will retain their R&R leave.

In January, the DOD announced changes to the list of places eligible for imminent danger pay, or IDP, removing some areas and adding others. The nine countries no longer eligible for R&R were decertified for IDP, both of which will take effect June 1.

The decision to remove R&R leave from those countries "has taken place over time as the region has stabilized and countries in the AOR continue to become more and more safe," said Col. Ron Dougherty, U.S. Air Forces Central Command director of manpower, personnel and services.

About 500 airmen in USCENTCOM will be affected by the R&R policy change, the Air Force said.

Navy to allow early separations

The Navy is allowing some sailors in competitive ratings to volunteer for early separation from the service. Early separations are being granted to reduce the possibility of involuntary separations, a Navy statement said Thursday. They will be approved on a first-come, first-served basis until quotas are exhausted. The quotas will be determined by rating, pay grade, year group and subspecialty and will be updated "on a regular basis."

Sailors can apply for voluntary early separation up

MILITARY

Exit: Afghan military says it can't afford to take over adjacent training camp

FROM FRONT PAGE

"This is another great day in the transition from the International Security Assistance Force to Afghan security forces," German Maj. Gen. Bernd Schütt said, addressing the crowd of U.S. and Afghan troops at Camp Mike Spann, on the outskirts of the city of Mazar-e-Sharif. That message has been repeated on base after base as foreign troops withdraw.

But as the American flag was lowered for the last time, just over the wall on the Afghan side of the largest training facility in northern Afghanistan, a large swath of new buildings full of classrooms remained empty — the Afghans have refused to take the buildings from the Americans

Everything has been requested from MOD (Ministry of Defense), and we hope to have it (funding to fuel the training facilities) soon.'

Col. Mohammad Rahimi
Afghan National Army

Western-financed facilities built for the Afghan security forces sit idle or are underused because the Afghans lack the money or technical expertise to run them or because of shoddy construction. For a government that relies on international aid for roughly 95 percent of its budget, it remains to be seen how much of the military infrastructure they are inheriting from coalition forces they can afford to maintain.

"SIGAR is concerned about the ability of the Afghan government to sustain the achievements of the past 12 years in light of the increasing gap between its revenues and its obligations," SIGAR Chief John Sopko wrote in the introduction to the group's recently released quarterly report.

At an international donor conference in Tokyo in 2012, nations pledged \$16 billion to help fund Afghanistan's government after foreign combat troops withdrew at the end of this year. But whether that aid will be forthcoming could depend on whether the U.S. and Afghanistan can finalize a bilateral security agreement crucial to keeping a small international force in the country past the end of the year to train and mentor Afghan forces.

After his ceremony speech, Afghan National Army Col. Mohammad Rahimi, deputy commander of Camp Shaheen, which is adjacent to Camp Mike Spann, praised the growing capabilities of Afghan forces but looked uneasily toward the end of the year and the end of the ISAF combat mission.



PHOTOS BY HEATH DRUZIN/Stars and Stripes

The streets of Camp Mike Spann, near Mazar-e-Sharif in northern Afghanistan, are nearly empty a day before coalition troops left it for good on April 28 after it was transferred to the Afghan military, which refused to take control of an adjacent training camp, saying they can't afford to provide electricity for it.



Left: A communications tower at the camp is dismantled before the transfer. Right: Soldiers with the 82nd Airborne Division gather before the transfer ceremony.



"This is not the time to stop supporting and helping us," he said.

A symbolic facility

In many ways, Camp Mike Spann symbolizes the arc of the troubled war effort in Afghanistan. Opened in 2006, it was named for Johnny "Mike" Spann, the first U.S. casualty of the war. A CIA officer, Spann was killed in late 2001 during a prisoner uprising in the adjacent Qala-i-Jangi, a 19th-century fortress that was being used as a prison for militants captured in the war.

Back then, the Taliban had been quickly ousted from power with a small force made up largely of U.S. special operations troops working with the anti-Taliban Northern Alliance, and focus in Washington was already shifting toward the next war, in Iraq. In the crucial years that followed, while the U.S. was bogged down in what flared into an Iraqi civil war, the Taliban regrouped and re-emerged as a force.

Now, 12½ years into the war, with the insurgency still very active, the U.S. and its allies are working against the clock to turn over the war effort to the Afghan

security forces in places like Camp Mike Spann before all combat troops leave by Dec. 31.

Packing up

Less than an hour before the ceremony at Camp Mike Spann, American soldiers were still ripping cables from the walls and hurriedly piling computer screens and other electronics into boxes; a small crane lowered a communications tower from a roof.

A 40-page inventory that a two-man team had worked on for nearly a year catalogued goods at the base down to boxes of paper plates, according to Col. Walter Scott Sweetser, commander of Regional Support Command North, which oversees packing of military assets across nine provinces. Sensitive items such as computers and weapons will be shipped back to the U.S. or destroyed, while things like tools, furniture and kitchen items will stay behind.

"It was an enormous effort," Sweetser said. "We need to account for everything."

But despite that effort, one major issue remains unresolved: The Afghans have refused to accept control of the part of their

training base that houses the Western-funded classrooms for engineering and signals schools because of concerns about funding fuel for the power plant, which also was provided by ISAF.

"We still have the keys to the buildings," Sweetser said.

Regional Command North Deputy Commander Gen. Craig Timberlake said he understands the Afghan military's caution about taking over the buildings — whether to do so is up to the Afghans.

Such training facilities are especially crucial now, with Afghans losing international combat help and battling to train troops quickly

enough to make up for an attrition rate that costs the Afghan security forces, by some estimates, about a third of its force.

It's a harrowing nationwide effort complicated by an Afghan military and government beset by bureaucracy, poor management and corruption.

Rahimi said the unit had been waiting for months for the Ministry of Defense to grant them enough fuel to power the training facilities.

"Everything has been requested from MOD," he said, "and we hope to have it soon."

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MILITARY



BULLIT MARQUEZ/AP

Simulating a raid

A U.S. Army soldier, left, watches on Saturday as his Philippine counterparts fire their weapons to simulate a raid during the live-fire joint U.S.-Philippines military exercise, dubbed Balkatan 2014, at Philippine Army training camp Fort Magsaysay in northern Philippines. More than 5,000 U.S. and Filipino troops have begun two weeks of military exercises.

Americans kill armed Yemenis

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Two officers at the U.S. Embassy in Yemen shot and killed a pair of armed Yemeni civilians during an attempted abduction of the Americans at a Sanaa business last month, the State Department said Friday.

The officers have left Yemen, Marie Harf, a spokeswoman for the State Department, said in a statement. No other details were provided.

Citing unidentified U.S. officials, The New York Times reported that the Americans were a CIA officer and a lieutenant colonel with

the elite Joint Special Operations Command who were visiting a barber shop in an upscale district in Yemen's capital.

Within days of the shooting, both Americans left Yemen with the approval of the Yemeni government, the newspaper reported. It said the shooting occurred on April 24.

Earlier last week, the U.S. Embassy in Sanaa closed temporarily because of attacks on Westerners. A day before Tuesday's closure, gunmen opened fire on three French security guards working with the European Union mission

in the Yemeni capital, killing one and wounding another.

The U.S. has waged a heavy campaign of drone strikes in Yemen against the group al-Qaida in the Arabian Peninsula. This month the Yemeni government has been waging an offensive against the militant group, and violence around the country has been on the upswing.

On Friday, gunmen believed to be al-Qaida militants ambushed the motorcade of Yemen's defense minister in the Mahfad region, officials said. The assassination attempt failed.

Man confesses to killing US soldier in Iraq

The Associated Press

CINCINNATI — A man in Iraqi custody has confessed to killing a U.S. soldier whose remains were found in 2008, four years after he was kidnapped by insurgents and a video showed him surrounded by armed captors, an Army spokeswoman told The Associated Press on Friday.

A hearing in the case is set for Tuesday in an Iraqi court, though

it's unclear if the man who confessed to killing Sgt. Matt Maupin will attend. Maupin, of Batavia in southwestern Ohio, was captured when insurgents with rocket-propelled grenades and small arms ambushed his fuel convoy near Baghdad on April 9, 2004.

Shortly after, the haunting video of the 20-year-old soldier was released showing him sitting on the floor surrounded by masked

gunmen.

Maupin's family held out hope that he was still alive, but the U.S. military found Maupin's skeletal remains in March 2008 in a shallow grave near Baghdad.

Lt. Col. Alayne Conway, an Army spokeswoman, told the AP on Friday that a man in custody in Iraq confessed to killing Maupin. Conway was unable to provide further details, including the man's identity or nationality.

Marine attorney: Search of files 'unacceptable'

By MICHAEL DOYLE
McClatchy Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON — An unusual government search of Marine Corps defense attorneys' offices at California's Camp Pendleton could cast a cloud over dozens of criminal cases.

The search May 2, which lasted about 2½ hours, included investigators opening more than 100 case files compiled by defense attorneys, Marine Corps officers say. The search went beyond what was necessary and exceeded applicable legal standards, officers think.

"It's unacceptable," Lt. Col. Clay Plummer, the Marine Corps' regional defense counsel for the West Coast, said in an interview. "We're going to litigate this, to make sure this never happens again."

The courtroom fallout might take time to settle as defense attorneys with Camp Pendleton's Legal Service Support Team Echo consider charges for each of the cases in which investigators allegedly accessed files. Among other arguments, the defense attorneys could charge interference with privileged communications.

In theory, defense attorneys could go so far as to seek the dismissal of charges against individual defendants whose files allegedly were compromised. Lesser remedies could also be sought.

In a statement Friday afternoon, Camp Pendleton officials said the commanding general of Marine Corps Installations West had appointed an independent, neutral judge advocate to review evidence seized during the search.

The judge advocate will "identify whether any potentially privileged material was improperly disclosed," the statement said, adding that "due to the pending litigation, and the independent review of the search, further comment on the facts of this search would be inappropriate."

"The search of (defense attorneys') offices is a rare event," the statement added. Rule 502 of the Military Rules of Evidence specifies that a client "has a privilege to refuse to

disclose and to prevent any other person from disclosing confidential communications made for the purpose of facilitating the rendition of professional legal services." Marine Corps defense attorneys typically won't even disclose whether a servicemember has talked to them.

The defense services office that was searched at what's formally called Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton is one of two at the sprawling Southern California facility. It's the busiest defense office

in the Marine Corps, typically staffed by about eight active-duty attorneys.

Nationwide, the Marine Corps' Defense Services Organization typically represents more than 1,100 Marines annually at courts-martial and administrative hearings.

The organization prides itself as "Marines defending Marines."

According to several Marine Corps officers familiar with the May 2 search, it arose out of prosecutors' interest in a defendant's cellphone for a Camp Pendleton investigation. A defense attorney offered to provide the phone but wanted a judicial order first.

Instead, officers say, a prosecutor — known as a trial counsel — showed up accompanied by at least four armed Marine Corps Criminal Investigation Division agents. They had a search authorization, similar to a search warrant but signed by a local commander rather than a judge.

The trial counsel escorted the agents into the defense offices and then left. Wearing light blue latex gloves, investigators found the cellphone within about 20 minutes. Nonetheless, officers say, the search continued for another two-plus hours.

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MILITARY

Midshipmen: Assault charges sent former classmates on different paths

FROM FRONT PAGE

When ship selection night came in late January, Graham was hundreds of miles from Annapolis, Md., in Norfolk, Va., waiting out a snowstorm that had interrupted his long drive home to Mobile. He was staying with a friend who had recently graduated from the academy. They talked about watching it, but Graham, now 23, could not bring himself to turn on the computer.

"I had been waiting three and a half years to find out what I will do with my life," he said later. "It was heartbreaking for me to sit there and watch it go by without me participating."

The charges against Graham and Bush were later dropped, and Tate was acquitted in March, but not before the midshipmen became symbols of the U.S. military's failure to curb sexual violence among its 2.2 million servicemembers. The case helped fuel efforts in Congress to reform how commanders and the military justice system handle allegations of sexual assault.

While the political drama unfolded on Capitol Hill and cable news, there was a private one playing out in the insular setting of the Naval Academy, where 4,500 students live in the same dormitory for four years and eat together in the dining hall at the same time every day, where attendance at football games is mandatory and where violating the rules too many times can lead to expulsion.

All three of the accused midshipmen insisted that no sexual contact with the alleged victim was consensual. All three — and their accuser — stood accused of lying to investigators about what had happened at a "toga and yoga" party two years ago. The alcohol-soaked evening at an illicit off-campus football house nicknamed "The Black Pineapple" had profound consequences for all four of them. And in some ways, the fallout is just beginning.

A dream ended

What remains of Eric Graham's life at the Naval Academy sits inside a box in the middle of his childhood bedroom. The box is standard issue, given to midshipmen when they ship out, he explained. On the side, there is a place to write a destination. Normally, it would say Pearl Harbor or San Diego. His read: Mobile, Ala.

When he was at the academy, Graham worried that he would be sent home for different reasons. He'd struggled in his classes, especially as his legal troubles intensified. He quit football his junior year to concentrate on his grades. Economics had turned out to be a less-than-ideal major for him, but he picked it partly because his teammate Tra'Ves Bush had. Like him, Bush hailed from a close-knit religious family in the South. They also played the same position: safety.

But while Bush was invited to play in all-star games, Graham fractured a leg his freshman year



G.M. ANDREWS/The Washington Post

Former midshipman Eric Graham sits outside the Heavenly Creations barber shop, in Eight Mile, Ala., where he recently returned to rebuild his life after assault charges against him were dropped.

and didn't make it off the bench much.

Graham had dazzled recruiters with his speed, running a 40-yard dash in 4.4 seconds. He was recruited by Ole Miss and the University of Alabama, but he applied only to the academy. He wanted the discipline and the leadership training. The academy also offered a degree without the financial burden that had kept his mother, Joarlene Graham, working two jobs to send his two older siblings to college. His father, Melvin Graham, a former chemical plant worker, is disabled.

When Eric's acceptance letter arrived, his mother said, "it was like a dream come true." The family was devastated when Graham was charged last June with abusive sexual contact. They believed he was innocent.

So did the Mobile lawyer who volunteered to help defend Graham. Ronald "Chip" Herrington has known Graham since he was a toddler and had helped him get into the academy. He explained to his wife, Tammy, a former advocate for rape victims, that he wanted to represent someone accused of a sexual assault. Some news media reports were referring to the alleged incident as a "gang rape," a mischaracterization that made the accusations sound even worse.

"I think he's innocent, but you got to be OK with this," Herrington said as images of the three accused midshipmen appeared on a television screen behind him.

"Well, this is it," he said, point-

ing at the TV. "Watch this. This is what I am in."

"Oh my God," his wife gasped. "It's Eric."

Eyes on graduation

In his LinkedIn entry, Tra'Ves Bush stands, unsmiling, in his uniform in front of a wall that reads, "Don't Give Up the Ship." Below the picture are the barest of details: "Surface Warfare Officer in U.S. Navy, Virginia Beach, Virginia." The 23-year-old mentions his degree from the Naval Academy and the years he played football. But many of the thousands of items that pop up in a Google search of Bush's name are about the case.

He'd finished his classes and was a week away from graduating last May when academy officials told him that he would have to wait until the sexual assault investigation was resolved. When President Barack Obama addressed his class at graduation, telling them that "those who commit sexual assault are not only committing a crime, they threaten the trust and discipline that make our military strong," Bush was living off campus and spending his days doing administrative work in the athletic department. It was the start of what he called "the toughest six months of my life."

Before the charges, the only thing that had threatened his naval career was homesickness. He told the Annapolis Capital that he considered leaving after his sophomore year until some of his teammates talked him out of

it.

By Bush's junior year, Navy Coach Ken Niumatalolo described him as one of the team's most disciplined defensive players. He surpassed the expectations of recruiters, who found him at Strom Thurmond High School in Johnston, S.C., a town of about 2,300 that bills itself as the "Peace Capital of the World."

After Vice Adm. Michael Miller, the academy superintendent, decided in October that Bush would not have to face a court-martial and dropped all criminal charges against him, school officials chose not to punish him further. He had been disciplined under the midshipman conduct system for lying to investigators.

A week before Christmas, academy officials arranged a one-man graduation ceremony for him in Memorial Hall. Members of Bush's extended family were among the standing-room-only crowd that watched as he was commissioned. Afterward, there was a private celebration in Southwest Washington aboard the Sequoia, the former presidential yacht, where FDR hosted Winston Churchill and JFK celebrated his final birthday.

Bush also thanked friends and relatives on Facebook, including his fiancée, a high school science teacher he began dating a few months after the off-campus party. They are getting married in July.

"I had countless nights without sleep, numerous random breakdowns, and there was even a few times when I wanted to throw in the towel and give it all up," he wrote on Facebook. "I can go on and on about how things happened ... but I'll just sum it up by saying that any curse that the enemy is trying to make you be-



Courtesy of the U.S. Department of Defense

Tra'Ves Bush, one of the three U.S. Navy Academy midshipmen accused by a classmate, played safety on the academy's football team. Charges were eventually dropped and he graduated in December.

lieve you are, don't accept it because it's not who you are."

A few days later, Bush posted a picture of him and Graham with the caption, "Through it all ... we still STAND!!!"

Determined to serve

For the accuser, a two-year ordeal is nearly over. On May 23, the poised 22-year-old will hear her name called and walk across the stage at Navy-Marine Corps Memorial Stadium in Annapolis to collect her diploma. She'll take the oath to be a surface warfare officer.

Though she has never been publicly identified by The Washington Post or other news media outlets, almost everyone on campus knows who she is. Even when she was declining to cooperate with investigators, she endured whispered taunts, ridicule on social media, and cold stares in the dining hall. Months later, when she changed her mind about pursuing the case, she became a pariah.

She remembers little of that night herself, she testified. She had downed shots of coconut-flavored rum before going to the football house to join more than 100 midshipmen and students from other schools. Her last clear memory of the night was dancing to the song "Cashin' Out."

The next morning, she woke up on a couch inside the house, disheveled, with knots in her back and no memory of how she got that way. She later learned that she was rumored to have had sex with at least three men at the party: Bush, Graham and Tate.

She knew all three. She had occasionally hooked up with Bush for sex, she testified. She and Graham were in the same class and saw each other at Bible study once. When they were freshmen, he'd helped her shake off an unwanted suitor at a club by pretending to be her boyfriend. She had met Tate, who was a year behind her, through another football player, and sometimes they traded joking tweets.

But she was not fully prepared for what she encountered when she took her allegations public and the three midshipmen were charged with sexual assault.

At an Article 32 hearing last summer to determine whether the case should go forward, she spent more than 20 hours on the stand, much of it under brutal cross-examination. She was asked whether she was wearing underwear that night and how wide she opens her mouth while performing oral sex — questions, she would later say, that were "more humiliating than I could have imagined."

Her experience prompted Congress to change the Article 32 process late last year to protect future alleged victims of sexual assault from being pummeled by defense lawyers.

SEE MIDSHIPMEN ON PAGE 7

MILITARY

Midshipmen: Accuser and accused put case behind them

FROM PAGE 6

Her appearance at Tate's trial in March was briefer and far less harrowing. The only time her expression softened was when a prosecutor asked which service she had selected. With some pride, she answered, surface warfare.

She was at the academy when she learned Tate had been acquitted. The judge, Marine Col. Daniel Daugherty, said that the investigation had been hobbled by the woman's initial reluctance to cooperate and that prosecutors had failed to provide enough evidence that she was too drunk to consent to sex.

The young woman, who'd been disciplined by academy officials for underage drinking, let her attorneys express her disappointment. She was focused on finishing her last semester and looking ahead to graduation. Tate's gotten engaged to a former midshipman in February and was pinning photos of lacy wedding dresses with long trains to her Pinterest page.

More than one person suggested to her that the case was likely to follow her wherever she goes. But she was not convinced. Last fall, she told a Post reporter that the case had not "tainted my desire to serve."

"I'll leave here," she predicted, "and people won't know."

'I felt free'

A few weeks after his acquittal, Josh Tate returned to Bancroft Hall for the last time. He stuck out, dressed in a polo shirt and jeans. A civilian.

Rarely during his time in Annapolis had he felt so different from those around him. But he didn't care. "I felt free," he said. "When you wear a uniform, you're government property. I felt like me again, not part of something, as they say, more than yourself."

He'd been an outsider before, when he left his multiracial Nashville middle school for a mostly white Christian prep school. Many of his new classmates, he noticed right away, enjoyed advantages he didn't have.

Tate, now 22, was initially raised by his grandmother. His mother lost her parental rights for a time, and his father was in prison for selling drugs. He remembers seeing him only once.

When Tate was about 10, he and his younger sister started living with their mother again. He described his relationship with her as "complicated." For the last two years of high school, he moved in with the Rays, the family of a classmate, in an arrangement he compared to the one in the movie "The Blind Side." Kaka Ray said she and her husband came to consider Tate their second son. The day the verdict was read, she was sitting behind him, wiping away tears.

Tate had originally heard about the academy from an older teammate who ended up there. The discipline and structure appealed to him. "It's what I needed," he

said.

He majored in the math-heavy general sciences, hoping eventually to be assigned to a ship or a submarine. But he found the demands on his time made it harder to do well academically. In the back of his mind, he said, "I questioned, 'Is this really my calling in life?'"

He poured his doubts and stress into football and made the traveling team as a 203-pound outside linebacker. But his determination to stay at the academy waned during the sexual assault case.

He told his grandmother about the investigation. But when he was charged, he said he couldn't bring himself to call her. She found out from the local television news.

After the charges against Bush and Graham were dropped, leaving Tate to stand trial alone, his attorneys cried bias. Miller, the academy's superintendent, had pushed for a court-martial against the advice of a military judge and his own in-house attorney. But Tate, as the crew of civilian and military defense lawyers dubbed themselves, was not able to stop the trial.

"I just really lost all faith and hope in the process," said Tate, who'd taken his name down from his Twitter profile and replaced it with "That Dude" in a nod to his unwanted notoriety.

After his acquittal March 20, he could have fought to stay at the academy. But by then, he said, he no longer wanted anything to do with it or the military. He agreed to leave voluntarily rather than face a fight over allegations that he'd lied to investigators. He received an honorable discharge and is not required to pay back tuition.

At his grandmother's house, he has settled into a purple-walled bedroom with the biggest bed. There are no more 6:30 a.m. classes or morning quarters formation. There are no math tests to cram for or mandatory meal times.

Instead, Tate gets up each weekday a couple of hours before dawn to work out with a former high school coach. He wants to play football at whatever university he winds up attending. Then he spends eight hours working at a demolition site for about \$10 an hour. The job is exhausting.

What he's been through has changed him, he said. At the academy, he was taught to look out for his fellow midshipmen. He left with a different lesson. He is more suspicious of people's motives now, including his own.

"I'm more mindful of the situations I put myself in," he said, "and of the decisions I make."

A bond intact

Every graduating midshipman ends his or her tenure at the academy with an elaborate diploma printed with the presidential seal. Eric Graham ended his last week with a DD Form 214, a Certificate of Release or Discharge From Active Duty.



G.M. ANDREWS/The Washington Post

Former midshipman Joshua Tate readies to head out of town at Baltimore-Washington International Airport in Baltimore on April 9. He chose to take an honorable discharge from the U.S. Naval Academy after being acquitted of assault charges against a female classmate.

Even though the charges against him were dropped, Graham agreed to leave the academy voluntarily rather than face conduct code violations for lying to investigators. He received an honorable discharge and is not required to repay tuition. With just one semester left, he was not given the option to finish his degree.

"It still hurts us," his mother said.

Graham plans to enroll at the

University of Alabama, which accepted him soon after he got home. In the meantime, he's been cutting hair to make a bit of money, taking care of his grandmother and babysitting his nephew.

His relationship with the Navy has been severed but not his bond with his friends in 1st Company. Together they endured plebe summer, 14 hours of sea trials and countless hours in the library with books on thermodynamics and calculus.

This month, he plans to drive the 1,000 miles from Eight Mile to Annapolis to watch his comrades be commissioned as naval officers. He wants to be there even though he'll watch his accuser hear her name called, collect her diploma and toss her white cap in the air along with almost 1,100 members of the Class of 2014. His class.

"I still don't have any animosity toward her," he said. "I just want to be there for my friends. They were definitely there for me."



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MILITARY

Combat veterans speak up in fight to save Warthog

By DAVID LERMAN
Bloomberg News

WASHINGTON — Russell Carpenter owes his life to the ugliest warplane in the Pentagon fleet.

When about 3,000 U.S. soldiers traveling on a dirt road in Iraq came under fire from behind a ridge in the opening weeks of the 2003 American invasion, the retired Air Force chief master sergeant says he called for air support from the only plane that could fly low and slow enough to tell friend from foe: the A-10.

"They would have killed hundreds of our dudes" if it weren't for the firepower of the A-10, with its seven-barrel Gatling gun that sounds like a buzz saw, Carpenter said.

The trust of several generations of soldiers and airmen in the A-10, known as the Warthog for its snoutlike nose, has propelled opposition to the Pentagon's plan to retire all 283 of the 1970s-era planes to save \$4.2 billion over five years in a time of budget cuts.

The voices of combat veterans have added an extra edge to the hometown lobbying that makes it hard to kill any major weapons program, from tanks the military no longer wants to the troubled new littoral combat ship.

The Defense Department proposal, part of the fiscal 2015 budget request sent to Congress in March, has even become the centerpiece of a political campaign in Arizona, where a former A-10 pilot is running for a U.S. House seat against an incumbent she says hasn't done enough to save the plane. A base in the district is home to the biggest fleet of A-10s, and pilots are trained to fly them

there.

In a reflection of efforts by lawmakers to save the plane, the House Armed Services Committee took initial action on the A-10 Thursday when it approved its version of the annual defense policy measure. The panel voted overwhelmingly to provide \$635 million for the A-10, rejecting the service's plan to retire the plane.

"It is such an emotional issue," said retired Lt. Gen. David Deptula, a former Air Force intelligence chief who heads the Deptula Group, a consulting firm based in Oakton, Va. Given the budget constraints, he said in an interview, the decision to retire the plane makes sense.

Top Army officers make clear that they and their troops would miss the protection the A-10 has long provided.

"It's a game-changer," Gen. John Campbell, the Army's vice chief of staff, said at a Senate hearing on March 26. "It's ugly; it's loud. But when it comes in and you hear that 'bvvrr,' it just makes a difference."

The Air Force maintains that retiring the A-10 won't put soldiers' lives at greater risk. The service says newer, faster aircraft — such as the F-16, the F-15E, bombers and, eventually, the new F-35 fighter from Lockheed Martin — can perform the A-10's principal mission of "close air support," striking targets on the ground to help soldiers in a land battle.

"The mission will continue," Gen. Mark Welsh, the Air Force chief of staff, said at an April 10 hearing of the Senate Armed Services Committee. "We'll figure out how to do it better than it's



LINDA DAVIDSON/The Washington Post

Pilots Capt. Jonathon Alberts and Maj. Paul Kanning of the Maryland Air National Guard prepare to take their A-10 Warthogs on a training mission in Middle River, Md., on March 14.

'It's a game-changer. It's ugly; it's loud. But when it comes in and you hear that 'bvvrr,' it just makes a difference.'

Gen. John Campbell
U.S. Army vice chief of staff

ever been done before with the platforms we have."

The A-10's defenders say that promise rings hollow because other aircraft can't maneuver as close to the ground to home in on enemy forces.

"I wish the Air Force would be more forthright with what it's doing with the A-10," said retired Maj. Gen. Lawrence Stutzriem, a former director of plans, policy and strategy for the North American Aerospace Defense Command.

"We're going to have reduced capability," said Stutzriem, who has flown both the A-10 and the F-16 and is an independent consultant on security in Colorado Springs, Colo.

The A-10's supporters also question whether the military would commit its costly F-35 to support U.S. troops in ground

combat.

"You really think they're going to allow a \$200 million airplane to get down in the weeds where it's extremely vulnerable?" retired Lt. Col. William Smith, an airline pilot who flew the A-10 in Iraq and Afghanistan, said of the F-35 made by Bethesda, Md.-based Lockheed.

While the A-10 — which the Air Force says cost \$18.8 million per plane in today's dollars — is more vulnerable to enemy aircraft than fighters designed for air-to-air combat, a titanium "bathtub" that wraps around the bottom of the cockpit offers better protection against ground fire.

The twin-engine A-10 can fly as slowly as 300 knots, or 345 mph, without risk of stalling, compared with 450 knots for an F-16 or F-35, and that allows more time to identify and shoot at ground tar-

gets, said Col. Douglas Nikolai, the Air Force's director of operations force management.

The A-10 has a more powerful gun than the fighters. Its Gatling gun, which is 20 feet long and weighs 2.5 tons, can fire more than 1,100 rounds of 30 mm bullets. The F-16 and F-15E have a 20 mm gun that holds fewer than half the bullets. All of the planes have missiles and bombs that can be guided to ground targets.

"There are niche scenarios where the A-10 probably does a better job," Nikolai said in an interview. "In tough budget times, we have to make tough choices. Is it going to cost us lives? That's open for debate."

Nikolai and other Air Force leaders say that as their budget shrinks they can't afford to maintain a single-purpose plane when others can fill the void. Even if Congress were to repeal the automatic budget cuts known as sequestration, the service faces \$10.7 billion in reductions from previously planned spending over the next four years.

"It's a very beloved aircraft, and nobody likes the idea of retiring it," Air Force Secretary Deborah Lee James said in congressional testimony in March.

Wis. delegation pushes forest funding for littoral combat ship

By HENRY C. JACKSON
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Members of the Wisconsin congressional delegation are pushing their colleagues to ignore the wishes of President Barack Obama and preserve full funding for a Navy ship built in the state.

And so far, they are succeeding. At issue is the littoral combat ship, which is built in Marinette, Wis., and Mobile, Ala. Obama has proposed cutting a scheduled order of four littoral combat ships during the 2015 fiscal year to three of the ships. Doing so would mean one of the cities would lose a ship order for that year.

Both states' delegations have rallied around the ship program, which has faced long term questions. They've pressed their colleagues to include full funding as Congress goes through a monthslong appropriations and funding process. This week, the ships cleared an important hurdle, emerging intact from the House Armed Services Committee markup of the 2015 National Defense Authorization Act.

"There are some hurdles yet to go," said Rep. Reid Ribble, R-Wis., who represents Marinette in Congress. "But this is an important step."

The next step will be a full vote

on the House floor for the defense bill, then consideration by the House Appropriations Committee, likely sometime in early summer.

The effort to preserve funding for the ships in the 2015 budget has shown a bit of bipartisan defiance from Wisconsin's delegation, while also highlighting the importance of the littoral ship program to the state. About 2,000 jobs are directly linked with the program in Marinette with thousands more linked to it in the region. As a result, the program has strong support from members who are normally ideologically opposed.

Last week, members of the dele-

gation sent letters to colleagues on House committees dealing with military spending urging them to ignore Obama's request to fund only three ships in the 2015 fiscal year. The letter said Congress should stick with funding for four ships, as previously planned, and noted that the littoral ships had become more affordable.

"The LCS is the rare military program that has seen costs decrease instead of increase over time," the letter reads, noting that prices are "locked in."

The delegation's push comes after Obama and Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel put the program on notice in March. As Hagel out-

lined a vision for a more versatile military, he publicly questioned whether the littoral ships, as currently built, can deal with more modern weaponry.

Hagel has proposed cutting 20 of a planned 52 ship orders while the Navy studies what it needs.

The ship contracts that Wisconsin's delegation is currently fighting for were not affected by Hagel's proposal in March. They are part of the 32 ship orders that Hagel has said should go ahead. But Obama's 2015 budget would only fund three of them, creating a situation where one of the two cities that produce the ships could see a reduced workload.

NATION

Arkansas issues 1st gay marriage license

BY CHRISTINA HUYNH
The Associated Press

EUREKA SPRINGS, Ark. — An Arkansas clerk issued the state's first gay marriage license on Saturday, breaking a ban that voters in the conservative southern state put in place with a constitutional amendment 10 years ago.

Carroll County Deputy Clerk Jane Osborn issued a license Saturday morning to Kristin Seaton, 27, and Jennifer Rambo, 26, of Fort Smith, Ark. They had slept in a Ford Focus after arriving in

“The exclusion of a minority for no rational reason is a dangerous precedent.”

Judge Chris Piazza
Pulaski County (Ark.) Circuit Court

Eureka Springs at 2 a.m. Saturday and were the first of about 10 couples to line up outside of the courthouse before it opened.

When the license was issued, Rambo said, “Thank God.” Seaton and Rambo, who have been to-

gether four years, then held a marriage ceremony on the courthouse steps. A woman in a rainbow dress officiated.

Pulaski County Circuit Court Judge Chris Piazza ruled Friday that Arkansas' 2004 voter-ap-

proved amendment to the state constitution violates the rights of gay couples. He didn't put his ruling on hold as some judges in other states have done. Attorney General Dustin McDaniel said he would appeal the ruling and asked it be suspended during that process. No appeal had been filed as of Saturday morning when the license was issued.

The license made Arkansas the first state in the deep South — a region where anti-gay marriage sentiments run strong among socially conservative evangelicals

— to have a same-sex marriage.

If the judge's decision is upheld, Arkansas would join the 17 states and Washington, D.C., that have legal same-sex marriage.

Arkansas' amendment banning same-sex marriage was passed in 2004 with the overwhelming support of the state's voters. In striking down the ban, Piazza wrote that it is “an unconstitutional attempt to narrow the definition of equality.”

“The exclusion of a minority for no rational reason is a dangerous precedent,” he said in his ruling.

Tops in baby names: Noah, Sophia

BY STEPHEN OHELMACHER
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — When it comes to baby names, blending in is out, and standing out is in.

Noah and Sophia top the Social Security Administration's list of most popular American baby names for 2013, but they don't begin to approach the popularity of past-generation favorites like John and Mary.

Noah sailed past Jacob to claim the top spot for boys, ending Jacob's 14-year reign. Sophia was No. 1 for the third straight year in the list released Friday. Noah was followed by Liam, Jacob, Mason and William. Sophia was followed by Emma, Olivia, Isabella and Ava. But none of these names is nearly as popular as the top names were a generation ago.

Why? Because more and more

parents are looking to give their children names that will set them apart, instead of worrying about whether they will fit in.

“Names have more widely become seen as a personal brand, a statement of individual style and personality, and so people are looking for a name that's different from what other people have,” said Pamela Redmond Satran, co-founder of Nameberry.com. “In the 1950s, everybody was looking to blend in.”

Last year, a little more than 18,000 newborns were named Noah. Twenty years ago, almost 50,000 newborns were named Michael, the top name that year. In 1950, when James was No. 1, there were more than 86,000 newborns with that name.

It's the same story for the girls.

About 21,000 newborns were

named Sophia last year. Twenty years ago, 35,000 babies were named Jessica. In 1950, more than 80,000 were named Linda, the top name for girls that year.

“In the past, most parents were picking from a pretty well-defined set of names,” said Laura Wattenberg, creator of Babynamewizard.com. “Literally for hundreds of years, the English royal names dominated. You had John and Mary and James and Elizabeth.”

“Today,” she said, “we get names everywhere.”

Jacob first rose to No. 1 in 1999.

In the 45 years before that, Michael was king for all but one.

There has been more variety among the girls. Mary dominated the first half of the 20th century. But in the past two decades, Emily, Emma, Isabella and Jessica have all spent time at the top.

Flood of boys named Noah

After 14 years as the most popular newborn boy's name, Jacob got bumped to No. 3 by Noah; Sophia remains atop the girls' list for a third year.

2013 RANK	TOP BOY NAMES	2012 RANK	TOP GIRL NAMES	2012 RANK
1	Noah	4	Sophia	1
2	Liam	6	Emma	2
3	Jacob	1	Olivia	4
4	Mason	2	Isabella	3
5	William	5	Ava	5
6	Ethan	3	Mia	8
7	Michael	8	Emily	6
8	Alexander	9	Abigail	7
9	Jayden	7	Madison	9
10	Daniel	11	Elizabeth	10

SOURCE: Social Security Administration

AP

2nd body recovered after Va. air balloon crash; 1 missing

BY LARRY O'DELL
The Associated Press

DOSWELL, Va. — A second body has been recovered in the fiery crash of a hot air balloon in Virginia.

Virginia State Police said the body was found Saturday as more than 100 searchers continued to hunt for a third victim. None of the victims has been identified.

The balloon drifted into a power line Friday night, burst into flames and crashed. The balloon and the basket holding the pilot also have yet to be located.

The crash occurred ahead of a weekend balloon fest in Doswell, about 25 miles north of Richmond.

Witnesses said they heard screams for help from the balloon. Police received eyewitness reports that two occupants either fell or jumped from the burning balloon after it struck the power line.

Carrie Hager-Bradley said she saw the balloon in flames on her way home from the grocery store and heard people yelling, according to WBTV-TV.

“They were just screaming for

anybody to help them,” she said. “Help me, help me, sweet Jesus, help. I'm going to die. Oh my God, I'm going to die.” Hager-Bradley said she heard one person screaming.

The crash occurred near the Meadow Event Park in rural Caroline County, where the Mid-Atlantic Balloon Festival was being held. The area is about 25 miles north of Richmond.

Another eyewitness, Nancy Johnson, said the crash occurred in an instant. “One minute the balloons were hovering in a field behind Event Park, the next everyone is pointing at sky,” she wrote in an email to The Associated Press. “The crowd went silent in shock. Very sad night.”

The festival was scheduled to begin officially on Saturday, but was holding a special kickoff event Friday for about 740 people. Organizers canceled the rest of the festival.

Some hot air balloons landed safely in Debra Ferguson's yard, The Free Lance-Star, of Fredericksburg, Va., reported. She said one of the men in the balloons pointed up at another still in the



COURTESY OF NANCY JOHNSON/AP

Authorities say this hot air balloon apparently caught fire and crashed in Virginia on Friday.

air and said he thought it might be in trouble.

“As soon as we looked up, the thing blew up right there,” Ferguson told the newspaper. “All I heard was, ‘Oh my God, Oh my God,’ and all you saw was the top of the balloon still flying, but all of the basket was gone. All of the flames just disappeared. ... It was like a match — poof — and then it was gone.”

The Associated Press

HEARNE, Texas — The nephew of an elderly Texas woman who was shot and killed by a police officer said his aunt fired two shots before the officer shot her.

Roy Jones told KBTX-TV for a story that aired Friday that he had taken his aunt Pearlle Golden, 93, to renew her driver's license Tuesday, but she was denied after failing her test.

As Jones took his aunt back to her home, he could tell she was upset, he said.

Jones said he later was sitting with his aunt on her front porch when Golden demanded her keys back. He refused, so Golden went into the house and got her .38-caliber handgun. Jones ran into the house and called police, he told the station.

Hearne police have said in a statement that Golden “brandished a gun” when officer Stephen Stem arrived. A preliminary autopsy shows Golden was shot twice and grazed by a third bullet, Robertson County District Attorney Coby Siegart said.

Hearne police have declined to comment beyond the statement

issued last week. Stem has been placed on administrative leave, and the Texas Rangers are investigating the shooting.

Siegart told the station that because the case is still under investigation, he could neither confirm nor deny that Golden fired her gun.

Dozens of protesters marched to police headquarters on Thursday and were met there by Mayor Ruben Gomez, who said he will recommend that Stem be fired during Saturday's City Council meeting.

“It's a loss of confidence in the community. We can't have an officer the citizens have lost confidence in,” Gomez said.

However, Stem's attorney, Robert McCabe, told the station that he believes his client's actions were justified under the circumstances and called the mayor's comments inappropriate and unprofessional.

“He probably knows less facts about what occurred than I do,” McCabe said.

The Hearne City Council planned to meet Saturday afternoon about Golden.

WORLD

Ukraine's 'step into the abyss'

Acting president warns regions against self-destruction before vote

By PETER LEONARD
The Associated Press

MARIUPOL, Ukraine — As two of the most tense regions in eastern Ukraine prepare to vote on declaring sovereignty, the country's acting president is warning them against self-destruction.

Sunday's ballots seek approval for declaring so-called sovereign people's republics in the Donetsk and Luhansk regions, where pro-Russia insurgents have seized government buildings and clashed with police and Ukrainian troops.

At least seven people died Friday in clashes in the city of Mariupol. The city remained on edge Saturday, with barricades of burning tires blocking some streets in the city center.

The referendums are being conducted by the insurgent movements and are not regarded as legitimate by Kiev or the West. The elections chief of the insurgents in Donetsk, Roman Lyagin, was quoted by news agencies as saying voting in Mariupol and one other district had begun early because of rising tensions there.

Ukrainian President Oleksandr Turchynov, in comments posted on the presidential website Saturday, said supporters of independence for the east "don't understand that this would be a complete destruction of the economy, social programs and general life for the majority of the population."

"This is a step into the abyss for the regions," he said.

The hastily arranged referen-

dums are similar to the March referendum in Crimea that approved secession from Ukraine. Crimea was formally annexed by Russia days later.

But organizers of the eastern vote have said that only later will a decision be made on whether they would use their nominal sovereignty to seek full independence, absorption by Russia or to stay part of Ukraine but with expanded power for the regions.

Turchynov and Ukraine's interim government came to power in February following the ouster of Russia-friendly president Viktor Yanukovych after months of protests in Kiev. Moscow and many in Ukraine's east denounce the government as a nationalist junta and allege that it intends to trample on the rights of east-



MANU BRABO/AP

Ballot boxes stand already bear the flag of Donetsk People's Republic at a polling station Saturday in Donetsk, Ukraine, before Sunday's sovereignty vote.

ern Ukraine's Russian-speakers. More than 30 people have been reported killed as Ukrainian forces mount offensives to retake some eastern cities now under the effective control of insurgents.

In the remarks issued Saturday, Turchynov said the government was willing to negotiate with rep-

resentatives of the east, but not with anyone he called "terrorists whose task is the destruction of the country, a task put forth by their masters." Kiev claims Russia is fomenting or directing the unrest in the east, with the goal either of destabilizing Ukraine or finding a pretext for invasion.

Syrians return to homes in Homs

By ALBERT AJI
AND DIAA HADID
The Associated Press

HOMS, Syria — Thousands of Syrians streamed into war-battered parts of the central city of Homs for the first time in nearly two years Saturday, many making plans to move back just days after rebels surrendered their strongholds to pro-government forces.

Men, women and children fanned through the city's smashed ancient quarters, some in pickup trucks and bicycles, while most walked on a breezy, sunny day.

A youth band banging drums and holding photographs of Assad marched through the area, adding a celebratory mood for those supporting his government amid the 3-year-old conflict.

Residents scavenged what they could from their homes, mostly clothes, dusty mattresses and some burned gas canisters, carrying them away in plastic bags and trolleys.

"My house was completely destroyed and burnt, but I found some photos," said Sarmad Mousa, 49, a resident of the old Hamidiyah district. "They will remain a memory for me of the beautiful days we had here."

Some accused rebels of looting and burning their homes. Smaller crowds made the journey Friday.

Other residents were already making plans to stay in their homes, sweeping them clear of rubble and smashed glass.

"God willing, we will sleep in



AP

Syrian civilians return to Homs, Syria, on a government-led media tour Friday. Bulldozers cleared rubble from the streets after a recent agreement that granted opposition fighters safe exit from the city.

our homes tonight, not tomorrow," one man told Lebanese television station al-Mayadeen. "Even if the homes aren't ready, we are going to help each other build our homes," he said.

Hundreds of rebels surrendered their stronghold in Homs to government forces in exchange for their safe passage to the nearby northern countryside as part of a deal that began Wednesday.

Some 2,000 rebels — and civilians living there — were badly weakened by the nearly two-year blockade and heavy bombing of the area.

The surrender deal is widely seen as a victory for Assad weeks ahead of a presidential election on June 3 that he is expected to win, giving him a mandate to continue his violent crackdown on rebels

in the Syrian civil war, which activists say has killed more than 150,000 people.

Assad has two unknown competitors for the presidential elections, Maher al-Hajjar and Hassan al-Nouri, according to an announcement by Syria's supreme constitutional court on Saturday.

The spokesman, Majed Khadra, made the announcement in a broadcast on state-run television.

Over 20 candidates had applied to run, but Khadra said they did not obtain the necessary support — approval of their candidacy by at least one-third of Syrian lawmakers. His announcement came after six of the original presidential hopefuls appealed to the constitutional court to accept their candidacies.

For rebels, it was a bitter day, said an opposition activist who uses the name Thaer Khalidiya.

"The fighters left to rest and get treatment, but they want to return to liberate Homs," he said over Skype. "They want to go back."

Municipal workers began fixing power lines in the city while bulldozers cleared rubble from the street. The Syrian Red Crescent gave clean water, food and candles to residents who wanted to return to their homes, Gov. Talal Barazi said.

But danger still lurked in some areas. A man, woman and child have been killed in three separate explosions in Homs after detonating rebel-planted mines left in their homes, Barazi said.

Paul VI a step closer to sainthood

The Associated Press

VATICAN CITY — Pope Paul VI, who did much to modernize the Roman Catholic Church but pronounced a ban on artificial contraception which was widely defied by the faithful, has moved a step closer to sainthood with Pope Francis' official confirmation of a miracle.

The date for the beatification was set for Oct. 19, the Vatican said Saturday, a day after Francis formally certified the miracle said to involve a risky birth in California. Beatification is the last formal step before possible sainthood.

During his pontificate from 1963 to 1978, Paul made landmark progress in improving Catholics' relationship with other Christians. But he disappointed many Catholics who were hoping for liberalization of church teaching on sexuality. After much consultation and, reportedly, personal anguish, Paul VI enshrined the church's teaching against artificial contraception in the 1968 encyclical "Humanae Vitae" ("of human life").

The Vatican, as is its custom, didn't give details about the miracle, which must be certified by doctors as having no medical explanation.

Italian media have reported that the miracle was that of a boy born healthy in California despite the diagnoses in 2001 of the rupture of the fetal bladder and absence of amniotic liquid. The mother reportedly refused an abortion and prayed for Paul VI's intercession at the urging of a nun.



Pope Paul VI

WORLD

'Fighting against ourselves'

Iraqi army faces death, desertions as it struggles with Anbar offensive

By LOVEDAY MORRIS
The Washington Post

RAMADI, Iraq — Iraq's acting defense minister looks beleaguered, his face drawn, with deep bags below his eyes from a lack of sleep.

For four months, Sadoun al-Dulaimi has been operating from Anbar, the most dangerous province for U.S. soldiers during the Iraq War and one again riven by conflict.

The army has dispatched 42,000 troops here in a bid to quell al-Qaida-inspired jihadists and hostile tribesmen, whose resurgence is posing the biggest test for the Iraqi military and the country's Shiite-led government since the withdrawal of U.S. forces 2½ years ago.

The battle is filled with potential pitfalls. A government failure to regain control in Sunni-dominated Anbar would jeopardize the country's unity. But an escalated military offensive could deepen anger among the nation's Sunni minority, fanning the flames of sectarian war.

The fight has proved tougher than expected. Hundreds of soldiers have died, and the military is facing mass desertions. The government says it is incapable of stemming the flow of hardened militants, who are often better equipped than Iraqi forces, across the border from Syria.

Even Dulaimi has found himself in the line of fire at his temporary headquarters in one of ousted President Saddam Hussein's former palaces, now an army compound. The roof of his office says where a mortar round hit two weeks ago. Another struck a car outside a few days later. His helicopter has been fired on twice, and once a sniper shot through his window as he slept.

The city of Fallujah, 30 miles east toward Baghdad, remains completely out of government control after being overrun in January by militants from the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria, an al-Qaida offshoot, and anti-government tribesmen.

Ramadi, the provincial capital, has largely been subdued, but a steady barrage of artillery thunders out from the main army base in the city, and several neighborhoods have yet to be secured. The flashes of explosions intermittently light up the city's outskirts.

"War has destroyed this country since 1980," Dulaimi said, referring to the beginning of the Iran-Iraq War. "Again, we have been in the middle of a civil war. This time we are fighting against ourselves, unfortunately."

Outreach and outsiders

Like the United States before it, the Iraqi government has been attempting to recruit Sunni tribesmen to help in the fight. Dulaimi, who hails from Anbar's largest tribe, spends much of his time negotiating with tribal leaders. He is also Iraq's culture minister and has a doctorate in psychology, and he acknowledges that he prefers "the academic life." But now, his life is consumed by the conflict.



MAX BECHERER, POLARIS IMAGE/The Washington Post

Iraqi army helicopters fly over Anbar province on May 1. Anbar was the most dangerous province in Iraq for U.S. soldiers during the Iraq War, and it is once again riven by conflict as the Iraqi army fights a resurgence by an al-Qaida offshoot known as ISIS and hostile tribesmen.

A success story

As violence rages in Anbar, Albu Faraj, an area just north of Ramadi, is considered one of the government's success stories. Its homes are scorched or flattened, their bullet-pocked walls showing the scars of the army's recent offensive to oust insurgents. It could be a scene from a decade ago, when the United States battled al-Qaida here. In just one day in 2005, U.S. troops killed about 50 insurgents in the neighborhood.

Sheikh Abdullah Jallal al-Faraj fought alongside the Americans then, and his body bears the scars of machine-gun fire from bouts with al-Qaida in the years since.

This year, clashes once again broke out in Albu Faraj, an area sliced in two by one of the main highways into Ramadi. The tribal leader on the western side of the road was sympathetic to ISIS, while tribesmen to its east, including Faraj, backed the government.

ISIS had been building its presence here over the past year, Faraj said. Sunni disillusionment with the Shiite-led government helped fan the flames.

Since the beginning of the year, fighters on the western side had attacked major convoys using the highway to enter Ramadi. In February, the fighters tried to push into the eastern side. Faraj said his followers battled them for three days until the army intervened and launched an offensive. He lost cousins and a nephew.

About 75 houses were destroyed — most booby-trapped with explosives that killed many soldiers, according to Faraj.

One day after last week's parliamentary elections, the western side of the highway remained tense. Army snipers peered over rooftops. A few signs of everyday life had returned, but much of the area appeared deserted.

"Before, this area was all very hot," said Brig. Gen. Hisham Payath, a spokesman for the army's military operations here. "Now it is secure, but we should move quickly."

Government officials have been accused of suppressing figures on the deaths of soldiers in Anbar this year. Dulaimi said only that "tens" of security force members, including the police, have been killed.

But Fleish said that more than 300 soldiers have died in the province this year and more than 1,000 have been injured. There have also been large-scale defections since the Anbar conflict began, he said.

But the army has attracted a steady flow of new recruits and does not mourn those who have left, he said.

"It filters out who is courageous and who is cowardly," Fleish said.

Planning for a battle

For many in Anbar, the return of war has been painful. Ahmed Khalaf al-Dulaimi, the governor of Ramadi, said the central government's biggest mistake was to not renew an agreement that would have allowed a continued U.S. troop presence after 2011. Instead, he said, the work of the United States has unraveled.

"Now if we were to return back to 2004, we'd be in a better situation," the governor said, because at least then there was hope and a plan.

Today, the question of how the state will regain control of Fallujah looms large. Military plans are in place, but they were delayed because of the election, said Sadoun al-Dulaimi, the acting defense minister.

Fleish said his men are ready and have been trained for the "entrance operation." They are just waiting for the command from Maliki.

"We have plans and backup plans," he said. But he cautioned that assurance with a warning: "In spite of that, we will have civilian casualties."

The acting defense minister did not disagree.

"When you fight for your country, for your freedom, for your rights, and you have no choice, you shouldn't be concerned" about casualties, Dulaimi said.

"Just go ahead."

"When you fight for your country, for your freedom, for your rights, and you have no choice, you shouldn't be concerned [about casualties]. Just go ahead."

— Sadoun al-Dulaimi,
acting minister of defence of Iraq

AMERICAN ROUNDUP

Woman can't remember driving drunk, crashing

OR OREGON CITY — A woman has pleaded guilty to a charge that she was driving under the influence in Lake Oswego in February when she was too intoxicated to know what she was doing.

It wasn't until Mary Elizabeth Lanning, 40, woke up in jail that she learned she had crashed into two police cars.

The Oregonian reported that she was sentenced Thursday in Clackamas County Circuit Court to 14 days in jail and ordered to pay \$4,500 in damages.

Suit: School too harsh on student in sex video

LA BATON ROUGE — A lawsuit has been filed claiming Louisiana State University is seeking a punishment that is too harsh for an engineering student accused of recording two other students having sex in a dorm room in March.

Thursday's state district court lawsuit, filed in Baton Rouge, says less serious sanctions have been handed down in the past to star football players convicted of various crimes.

The Advocate reported that the suit was filed on behalf of Xavier R. Riascos. It says Riascos' recommended punishment was a suspension of more than three years.

John DiGiulio, an attorney representing Riascos, described the allegations involving his client as "a college prank that has turned into a sex offense."

Riascos and another student were arrested for alleged video voyeurism, but neither has been charged by prosecutors.

Disabled woman says parking meters too tall

PA PITTSBURGH — A woman has sued the Pittsburgh Parking Authority, saying that its new electronic parking meters are too tall for her to reach from her wheelchair.

Debra J. Stemmler, 53, filed the class action lawsuit in U.S. District Court, claiming that the parking authority is violating the Americans with Disabilities Act. Her lawsuit says the new meters have working parts more than 48 inches above the ground, including coin slots.

Stemmler said she got a ticket because she couldn't reach the controls. The authority dismissed her ticket, but she wants it to bring meters into compliance with federal disability access regulations. The Pittsburgh Parking Authority did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

Early present for veteran: A new home

MS BILOXI — It was an early Mother's Day present for a retired Army National Guard sergeant.

Retired Sgt. 1st Class Julie Barcheers was handed the keys to a new home Thursday. She was recently chosen to receive

THE CENSUS

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The number of lives saved by Kathleen "Kate" Moore during her 61 years as a lighthouse keeper during the 1800s. Praised for performing dangerous work at a time when women couldn't even vote, Moore received a grave marker Thursday, more than a century after she was buried. The Coast Guard, local officials and others participated in a dedication ceremony for Moore at the Mountain Grove Cemetery in Bridgeport, Conn. This weekend, the Coast Guard is scheduled to commission Coast Guard Cutter Kathleen Moore, a 154-foot Sentinel-class Fast Response Cutter, in Key West, Fla.



ASHLEE REZIN, (CHICAGO) SUN-TIMES MEDIA/AP

30-degree Tilt!

Guests hang on and look down from the Tilt! — a new tourist attraction that provides guests a unique view of the downtown area from the 94th floor of the John Hancock Building in Chicago — after it was unveiled. People hold onto handrails as the glass and steel facade tilts forward 30 degrees.

the mortgage-free home in Pearl River County from the Military Warrior Support Foundation and Bank of America.

Barcheers had a 20-year career in the Navy and Army National Guard. The mother of four and grandmother of 12 was wounded in Iraq in 2008 when a rocket exploded near her. Her shoulders, neck and back were injured, and she has a traumatic brain injury.

Court backs trooper in case of off-duty sex

AK ANCHORAGE — The Alaska Supreme Court has ruled that a state trooper who had consensual sex with a domestic violence victim hours after helping arrest her husband should not have been fired.

The 3-2 court opinion issued May 2 upheld results of arbitration in 2010 between the troopers' union and the Department of Public Safety, which the state subsequently appealed to the high court, the Anchorage Daily News

reported.

"Engaging in sexual conduct with a victim shortly after responding to her call for help, even if consensual, is inappropriate behavior for a state trooper," the justices wrote.

The justices in the majority said if they were deciding the case, they would have likely decided the state has just cause to fire the trooper. However, there is no policy in place in Alaska to fire someone for off-duty sex with a crime victim.

Ancient stone circles found on property

VA BLUEMONT — Con- centric stone circles near rocks weighing more than a ton — apparently aligned to mark solar events — are believed to be part of a Paleo-Indian site in the Blue Ridge Mountains of Clarke County that an expert has dated

to about 10,000 B.C. The complex along Spout Run has 15 above-ground stone fea-

tures. Though still under study, it could be one of the oldest man-made structures in North America still in existence and twice as old as England's Stonehenge.

Museum to return statue to Cambodia

CA PASADENA — The Norton Simon Museum has agreed to return a 10th-century statue that may have been looted from a Cambodian temple



during that country's genocidal civil war in the 1970s. "Temple Wrestler," a sandstone figure missing its hands and feet, has been displayed at the museum for nearly four decades. The 5-foot-high work depicts Bhina, a heroic figure in the Hindu epic

Mahabharata, in a fighting pose.

The sculpture is one of three being returned to Cambodia from the United States.

Monkeys losing hair at research center

OR PORTLAND — The U.S. Department of Agriculture has ordered Oregon Health & Science University to find out what's causing abnormal hair loss in more than half of the rhesus macaque monkeys at its Oregon National Primate Research Center in Hillsboro.

The university told The Oregonian that it reported many of the issues itself and works to ensure the humane treatment of research animals.

The center houses about 5,000 primates, most of them rhesus macaques. They are used in research into stem cells, preventing hereditary diseases in newborns and creating an HIV vaccine.

From wire reports

RETURN TO NORMANDY



Photograph from the Army Signal Corps Collection in the U.S. National Archives

On D-Day, June 6, 1944, troops in a landing craft approach Omaha Beach. At Omaha, one of five landing areas on the coast of Normandy, France, the U.S. 1st and 29th Divisions came under heavy fire. Despite bombardment from air and sea, the Nazis still had plenty of firepower, turning Omaha into a killing field.

The day that changed WWII

Seven decades ago, Operation Overlord hit the beaches of Normandy

Seventy years ago next month, the largest armada ever assembled set off from England for the French coast.

On June 6, 1944, 160,000 Allied troops, supported by 700 warships and carried by 2,500 landing craft, assaulted a 50-mile stretch of the Normandy coast in an effort to push the Nazis out from occupied France and drive into Germany.

Earlier that day, thousands of paratroops landed behind the enemy's defensive lines to protect the armada's flanks. Despite heavy losses within the first six days of the assault, 326,000 men, 54,000 vehicles and 104,000 tons of materiel came ashore in what was called Operation Overlord.

But the battle for Normandy was far from over. Twenty days into the operation, the Allies had advanced only a

dozen miles inland. By July, the breakout from Normandy had begun. Troops fought the battle among the hedgerows and captured St. Lo. By month's end, they were at the edge of Brittany. In August, Brittany was in Allied hands, and it was on to Paris, which was liberated on Aug. 25.

The Allied advance suffered a setback in the Netherlands during Operation Market Garden and stalled in December at the legendary Battle of the Bulge. On March 7, 1945, the U.S. 9th Armored Division captured the bridge at Remagen, Germany, and by the end of the month all of the Rhine was in Allied hands. The march across Germany had begun.

On May 9, 1945, just a little more than 11 months after D-Day, the Nazis surrendered.

Now, seven decades later, still-thankful French residents, D-Day veterans,

INSIDE

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ON THE WEB

See stripes.com/normandy for:

- More photos
- Visitor information
- An interactive map
- Videos: D-Day and Normandy American Cemetery sights

their families and friends, along with tourists and history buffs, will return to the invasion beaches — Utah, Omaha, Gold, Juno and Sword — to commemorate the Allies' efforts and sacrifices.



RETURN TO NORMANDY

In the footsteps of heroes

Visit the sites where hard-fought battles were won and heroism ruled the day

Early on June 6, 1944, an armada of warships and landing craft headed toward the coast of Normandy, France, and the night sky was filled with a swarm of more than 3,000 airplanes and gliders.

Airborne troops — 20,000 of them — were to jump into Normandy with the task of capturing and securing bridges and beach exits for the amphibious force that was to hit the beaches in the morning in an effort to rout the Nazis from occupied France. British paratroops were to secure the eastern flank of invasion beaches while the more than 15,000 parachutists from the 82nd and 101st Airborne Divisions were to protect the western flank around the town of Ste.-Mère-Eglise.

In that town, just a couple of miles inland from Utah Beach, the night sky was, unfortunately, not particularly dark as the parachutists floated down. A burning house, possibly set on fire by pre-invasion bombing, lit up the sky, revealing the silhouettes of descending paratroops.

For one trooper, the situation was even more unsettling. Pvt. John Steele had been shot in the foot on the way down, and, to make matters worse, his parachute got caught on the steeple of the Ste.-Mère-Eglise church. Hanging there, he played dead before being captured by the Germans.

Visitors to Ste.-Mère-Eglise today can still see the 82nd Airborne soldier hanging there, albeit in effigy. His plight was retold as part of the 1962 movie "The Longest Day," in which Steele was played by Red Buttons.

In the church, there are two interesting stained-glass windows: one of the Virgin Mary surrounded by paratroops and one of St. Michael, patron saint of parachutists, which was donated by veterans of the 82nd Airborne Division for the 25th anniversary of D-Day.

Across the street is the U.S. Airborne Museum, which is worth a visit. On display is a Douglas C-47 used in the invasion to transport paratroops and tow gliders, along with a Waco glider used to ferry troops and cargo during the assault.

The town itself is worth a look. Check out the post marking Kilometer 0 of the Voie de la Liberté, or Liberty Road, in front of the town hall, that follows the American drive across France in World War II. Interestingly, there is a Kilometer 00 marker at Utah Beach, as well.

About two miles from Ste.-Mère-Eglise, on road D15 toward Picauville, stands the "Iron Mike" statue, dedicated to the paratroops of the 82nd and 101st Airborne Divisions. The battle for the small bridge across the Merderet River at the hamlet of La Fière was one of the heaviest fought by the 82nd in Normandy. A parachute jump to mark the battle is scheduled here for June 8.

Follow the road a little farther and you will come to a small monument to the glider pilots. A short drive on, there's one to the 507th Parachute Infantry Regiment.

H-Hour at Utah and Omaha Beach — the time the invasion was to begin — was 6:30 a.m.

Normandy American Cemetery



Visitors to Normandy American Cemetery study an orientation table showing the D-Day invasion beaches. The cemetery is open daily, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. April 15 to Sept. 15; 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. the rest of the year; closed Dec. 25 and Jan. 1. Admission is free. For information on American cemeteries and memorials in Europe, visit abmc.gov.

Utah Beach Museum



Visitors to the Utah Beach Museum study the Martin B-26 Marauder. This plane did not see action on D-Day, but Marauders played a major role in the run-up to the invasion. The Utah Beach Museum is open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Oct. 1 to May 31; 9:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. June 1 to Sept. 30; and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Dec. 26 to Jan. 5. On Dec. 31, the museum closes at 4 p.m. Admission is 8 euros for adults and 3.50 euros for children under 15. Children under 7 and World War II veterans get in free. The museum website is utah-beach.com.

Ste.-Mère-Eglise



An effigy of Pvt. John Steele, an 82nd Airborne Division paratrooper, hangs from the steeple of the church in Ste.-Mère-Eglise, France. Steele's parachute got caught on the steeple when he jumped on D-Day. He played dead for several hours, but eventually was taken prisoner by the Germans. He later escaped and continued to fight in the war.

RETURN TO NORMANDY

At Omaha, the U.S. 1st and 29th Divisions came under heavy fire. Despite bombardment from air and sea, the Nazis still had plenty of firepower, turning the beach into a bloody killing field.

At Utah, things went better. Due to a stroke of luck, the 4th Division had landed slightly off course, on a strip of beach not as heavily defended. However, no one's rule on D-Day was easy. When things started to bog down, Brig. Gen. Theodore Roosevelt Jr. marched up and down the beach urging his soldiers to move inland. For his efforts, he was given the Medal of Honor. He died of a heart attack on July 12, 1944, and is buried at Normandy American Cemetery.

The Utah Beach Museum tells the story of D-Day, from preparations for the invasion to its successful outcome. There is much to see, from an original Martin B-26 Marauder twin-engine bomber, to a Higgins boat landing craft. Many personal items used and carried by soldiers, sailors and airmen are on display, and the documentary "Victory in the Sand" is itself worth the price of admission. In front of the museum is a monument to the 4th Infantry Division.

On the beach there are a number of other monuments. There is a memorial for the 90th Infantry Division, the 1st Engineer Special Brigade's monument is on top of an old German bunker, and nearby is the U.S. Navy Monument, the newest on the beach. The Utah Beach American Memorial is being renovated, but is due to be finished for the anniversary commemoration.

Driving toward Ste-Marie-du-Mont you will come across the area's newest monument, which is, as its plaque says, dedicated to those who led the way on D-Day. It depicts Maj. Richard Winters of "Band of Brothers" fame. A memorial to his "Easy" Company is nearby.

At Pointe du Hoc, Lt. Col. James Rudder and the men of the 2nd Ranger Battalion fought their way up steep 100-foot cliffs that rose from the sea, to capture a German gun position that could have riddled Utah and Omaha Beaches with shells. They captured the position only to find that some of the guns had been moved and tree trunks were used as props.

A new visitors center was recently opened at Pointe du Hoc Ranger Monument, and a visit there should not be missed. First, watch the video, then walk out toward the monument, past and over derelict German bunkers and through a landscape still scarred with craters from the Allied bombing and shelling.

The monument is beautiful in its simplicity. A tall granite pillar stands atop a German bunker with tablets at its base inscribed in English and French.

On Omaha, things had not gone well all morning. The tanks that were to land on the beach to soften up the enemy were released too far out to sea, and most sank. When infantry troops hit the beach, they immediately got pinned down by enemy fire. The draws, the roads up from the beach, were blocked by Germans. To make things worse, landing craft filled with troops kept pouring in, clogging up the beaches.

Under the leadership of Brig. Gen. Norman Cota of the 29th Infantry Division, the troops began climbing directly up the bluffs, blowing away obstacles with explosives and opening up the way inland. Still, the beachhead and the cliffs would not fully be in Allied hands until the end of the day. By midnight, around 34,250 troops had landed, with about 2,000 casualties.

Today, it is hard to imagine the horror, blood and confusion at Omaha Beach on D-Day. The loudest sound now might be the tour buses rolling down the coastal road.

Along the road down to the beach at Vierville-sur-Mer there are monuments to



The Ranger Memorial at Pointe du Hoc as seen through the opening of a German gun position. A new visitors center was recently opened at Pointe du Hoc Ranger Monument, and a visit there should not be missed. It is open 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. April 15 to Sept. 15 and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. the rest of the year. Admission is free.

the 29th Infantry Division, with its motto "29, Let's Go!" engraved on it, and to the 6th Engineer Special Brigade.

The U-shaped National Guard Monument is the most prominent sight on the western end of Omaha at Vierville. It, too, is built on a German gun position, and behind it you can still see a gun. There is also a marker for the 58th Armored Field Artillery Battalion here.

At St-Laurent-sur-Mer stands the Signal Monument with a dedication to the 11th Infantry Division on one side and the 116th Infantry Regimental Combat Team on the other. Behind it on the beach is the modern sculpture "Les Braves." The stainless steel sculpture is 9 meters high at its tallest point and weighs 15 tons. Its pieces represent the wings of hope, the rise of freedom and the wings of fraternity.

On the far eastern end of Omaha Beach near Colleville-sur-Mer stands the 1st Infantry Division Monument, a tall obelisk bearing the names of the division's fallen.

Nearby are two museums worth checking out, the Overlord Museum near the American cemetery and the Omaha Beach Memorial Museum on the road to Ste-Laurent-sur-Mer.

High on a bluff overlooking Omaha Beach is hallowed ground. Here, at Normandy American Cemetery, 9,387 American war dead are buried.

The entrance to the cemetery is through a visitors center featuring multimedia displays that trace the run-up to the invasion and its aftermath. Outside the center, a path takes visitors to the bluff overlooking the beach. An orientation table, high above the sands below, shows all the Normandy invasion beaches. But the cemetery's focal point is the 22-foot-high statue "The Spirit of American Youth Rising from the Waves."

The headstones are of white marble in the shape of a Latin cross, except for the 149 topped by the Star of David that mark Jewish graves.

Three Medal of Honor recipients are buried here, along with 41 sets of brothers and even a father and son.

Behind the statue is the Garden of the Missing, its walls inscribed with 1,557 names of those missing in action.

Standing at the foot of the statue looking across the reflecting pool, with the graves stretching row upon row almost as far as the eye can see, you get an idea of how much the country sacrificed for freedom on D-Day and beyond.



A look inside the Waco glider on display at the U.S. Airborne Museum at Ste.-Mère-Église, France, shows the cramped conditions in the aircraft. The museum is open daily except Dec. 24, 25, 31 and all of January. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Feb. 1 to March 31, and Oct. 1 to Dec. 30; 9 a.m. to 6:45 p.m. April 1 to Sept. 30. For more, see the museum's website, airborne-museum.org.



The 90th Infantry Division memorial on Utah Beach. The "Tough Hombres," as they were known, fought from Utah Beach to Czechoslovakia during the war.



A post marking Kilometer 0 of the Voie de la Liberté stands in front of the Ste.-Mère-Église town hall. The route follows the Americans' drive across France to liberate the country in World War II.

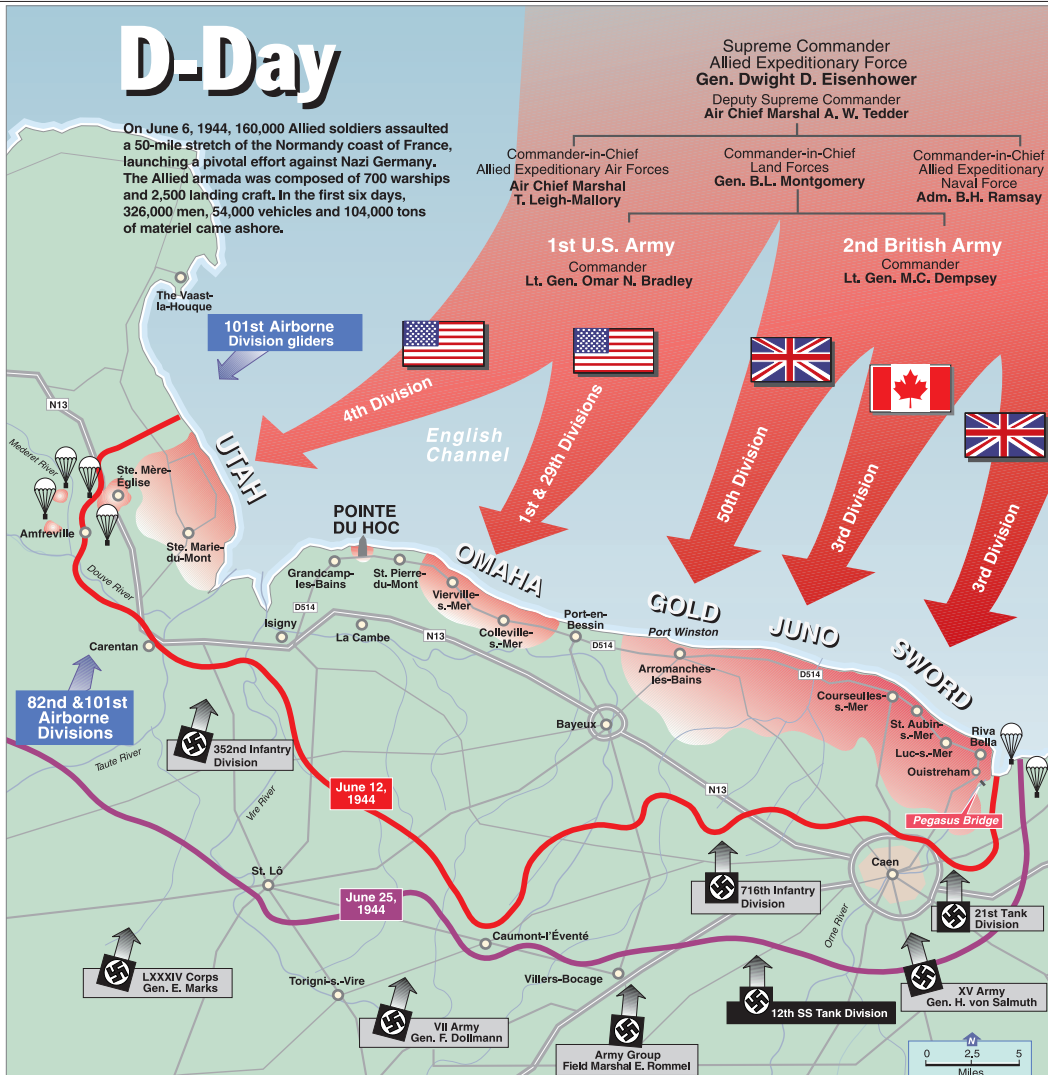


The remains of a World War II landing craft lie embedded in the sands of Omaha Beach below the Normandy American Cemetery. The D-Day beaches and Normandy American Cemetery are about 175 miles northwest of Paris, about a three-hour drive.

RETURN TO NORMANDY

D-Day

On June 6, 1944, 160,000 Allied soldiers assaulted a 50-mile stretch of the Normandy coast of France, launching a pivotal effort against Nazi Germany. The Allied armada was composed of 700 warships and 2,500 landing craft. In the first six days, 326,000 men, 54,000 vehicles and 104,000 tons of materiel came ashore.



Supreme Commander
Allied Expeditionary Force
Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower
Deputy Supreme Commander
Air Chief Marshal A. W. Tedder

Commander-in-Chief
Allied Expeditionary Air Forces
Air Chief Marshal
T. Leigh-Mallory

Commander-in-Chief
Land Forces
Gen. B.L. Montgomery

Commander-in-Chief
Allied Expeditionary
Naval Force
Adm. B.H. Ramsay

1st U.S. Army
Commander
Lt. Gen. Omar N. Bradley

2nd British Army
Commander
Lt. Gen. M.C. Dempsey

101st Airborne Division
gliders



4th Division

English Channel

1st & 29th Divisions

50th Division

3rd Division

3rd Division

POINTE DU HOC

OMAHIA

GOLD

JUNO

SWORD

82nd & 101st Airborne Divisions

352nd Infantry Division

June 12, 1944

June 25, 1944

716th Infantry Division

21st Tank Division

LXXXIV Corps
Gen. E. Marks

VII Army
Gen. F. Dollmann

Army Group
Field Marshal E. Rommel

12th SS Tank Division

XV Army
Gen. H. von Salmuth

Supreme Headquarters Allied Expeditionary Force

Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen of the Allied Expeditionary Force!

You are about to embark upon the Great Crusade, toward which we have striven these many months. The eyes of the world are upon you. The hopes and prayers of liberty-loving people everywhere march with you. In the company with our brave Allies and brothers in arms on other Fronts, you will bring about the destruction of the German war machine, the elimination of Nazi tyranny over the oppressed peoples of Europe, and security for ourselves in a free world.

Your task will not be an easy one. Your enemy is well trained, well equipped and battle-hardened. He will fight savagely. But this is 1944! Much has happened since the Nazi triumphs of 1940-41. The United Nations have inflicted upon the Germans

great defeats, in open battle, man-to-man. Our air offensive has seriously reduced their strength in the air and capacity to wage war on the ground. Our Home Fronts have given us an overwhelming superiority in weapons and munitions of war, and placed at our disposal great reserves of trained fighting men. The tide has turned! The free men of the world are marching together to Victory!

I have full confidence in your courage, devotion to duty and skill in battle. We will accept nothing less than full Victory! Good Luck! And let us all beseech the blessing of Almighty God upon this great and noble undertaking.

Dwight D. Eisenhower
Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower

Legend

- Allied beachheads, D-Day, June 6, 1944
- Allied airdrops
- Allied line June 12
- Allied line June 25
- German movements



RETURN TO NORMANDY

Hallowed ground

German War Cemetery



The German War Cemetery at La Cambe, France, is the final resting place for 21,140 German war dead. In the mound underneath the large cross, 296 fallen are interred. The cemetery's website has an English-language link at volksbund.de.

Cemeteries bear witness to war's cost in lives on both sides

Both the Allies and the Germans suffered heavy casualties on D-Day and during the following battle of Normandy.

Exact numbers are still unknown even after 70 years, but it is estimated that between 2,500 and 4,500 Allied forces were killed during D-Day (more exact research by the U.S. National D-Day Memorial Foundation had raised the number of casualties to 4,500). Estimates of those killed on the German side are between 4,000 and 9,000.

By the time the battle of Normandy was over, more than 53,000 Allied troops and well over 100,000 German troops had been killed.

Today, dozens of war cemeteries in Europe hold the remains of more than 100,000 dead from both sides — American, German, British, Canadian, Poles, French, Australians and more.

Americans might be most familiar with the American Battle Monuments Commission's Normandy American Cemetery at Colleville-sur-Mer (abmc.gov/cemeteries-memorials/europe/normandy-american-cemetery), but the British Commonwealth Graves Commission and the German Volksbund Deutscher Kriegsgräberfürsorge also have cemeteries throughout Normandy.

The Commonwealth Bayeux War Cemetery is the largest among the British cemeteries from the D-Day cam-

paign, with 4,648 burials. Although the largest number of those buried there, 3,935, are British, the cemetery also holds war dead from Canada, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, France, Poland, Italy, the Soviet Union, Czechoslovakia and even 466 from Germany.

A special feature of the Commonwealth cemeteries that sets them apart from those of the ABMC is that families of the fallen were allowed to have short messages engraved on the headstones. Messages such as "One of the dearest, one of the best, now in God's keeping, safe at rest" or, simply, "Beloved son and brother" give the cemetery a very personal touch.

The cemetery at La Cambe is the final resting place for more than 21,000 German war dead. Of note is the mound at the center of the cemetery topped by a large cross flanked by two figures representing mourning parents. There are 296 Germans interred in the mound.

At the La Cambe cemetery, also note the Peace Garden with more than 1,000 trees planted along the road leading to and in front of the cemetery.

Although the Commonwealth cemeteries hold some Canadian soldiers, there are two Canadian War cemeteries near D-Day beaches at Bénvy-sur-Mer and Bretteville-sur-Laize.

The Polish cemetery, with 650 burials, is near Grainville-Langannerie.

British Commonwealth Bayeux War Cemetery



The British Commonwealth Bayeux War Cemetery is the largest WWII cemetery of Commonwealth soldiers in France, with 4,648 burials. Find more information by visiting the Commonwealth Graves Commission website, cwgc.org.

About an hour-and-a-half drive southwest of the American cemetery at Colleville-sur-Mer is Brittany American Cemetery, where 4,408 Americans are

buried. Most of those interred there were killed during Operation Cobra, the breakout from Normandy and the battle for St. Lo.

CROSSWORD AND COMICS

NEW YORK TIMES CROSSWORD

JOINED SIDES

BY MARY LOU GUZZO / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

- ACROSS
- 1 Like many shotguns
9 Mole
14 Back-to-back games
20 Singer Christina
21 _____ gin fizz
22 "Twelfth Night" lower
23 Oil and gasoline giant
24 Very vexed
25 Leonardo _____ a.k.a. Fibonacci
26 _____ pitch softball
27 What a detective tries to reconstruct
29 "Platoon" setting
30 Sommelier's prefix
31 Flavor
32 Lozenge brand
34 "Platoon" director
37 Suckling site
38 "The Man Who Mistook His Wife for a _____" (1985 best seller)
42 Old Baby Bell based in the Big Apple
43 Assents
45 Stretch out
47 Neuter
50 Literary inits.
52 Jai alai basket
53 Water checker?
56 Going out for the afternoon?
60 The Who's "My Generation," e.g.
- 64 Pelvic parts
66 Musician's practice with four sharps
68 Former Obama social secretary
69 Over
70 Like some words ... or a hint to this puzzle's theme
72 Balkan native
75 Old Jewish villages
77 Start of a Beatles refrain
78 Old Highlands dagger
79 Thelma and Louise, e.g.
82 Davis and Midler
84 Cover some ground?
85 Dizzy
86 Bit
88 _____ put it another way ...
90 Persevered
94 Spurs
98 Landmark tech product of 1981
102 Latin "to be"
103 Biblical name of ancient Syria
105 Diplomatic differences
108 "CSI" setting
110 Coal or pine product
111 Melted chocolate, e.g.
112 Kind of algebra
116 "Is it in you?" sloganer
118 Write-____
119 Renner's dream, maybe
120 Lhasa _____
121 Some sheet fabrics
124 Nothing, in Napoli
125 Tuscan town
126 Sign-up
127 Classic London transport
128 Genetic structure
129 Source of some discrimination
- DOWN
- 1 Wind instrument pitched an octave lower than its smaller cousin
2 How ballerinas move
3 "Enter quickly!"
4 Rock's Ozasek
5 Pipe fitting
6 Renter
7 Heath evergreens
8 Thinks maybe one can
9 Huffington of the Huffington Post
10 Teri of "Tootsie"
11 Subject of some computer settings
12 Closeted
13 Lao-____
14 Enter quickly
15 Native New Yorkers
16 _____ D.A.
17 Primatologist Fossey
18 Sicilian city
19 Hotel accommodation for more than one
28 Kindle competitor
29 _____ chops
31 Battle of the _____
33 Letter that's also a name
35 Chillax
36 Art appreciation
38 Forever young
39 Dimmed stars?
40 Aleutian isle
41 Gang up on, as in basketball
44 "How _____"
46 Tar Heels' state: Abbr.
48 German musical entertainment
49 Auto sponsor of Groucho Marx's "You Bet Your Life"
51 Hawk
53 Commit a chip-eating faux pas
54 King lead-in
55 Boo-boos
57 Shell seen around water
58 Formatting feature on a typewriter
59 Totality
61 Sired
62 Unfazed by
63 Better at picking things up?
65 Lock
67 Job listing inits.
71 Descent
73 Old car make that's a homophone of a modern car model
74 Relative of a twin
76 Anatomical tissue
79 Reaction of surprise

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
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23									24					25				
26						27		28					29					
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42																		
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100																	100	101
102								103			104		105			106	107	
																		111
112	113	114	115															118
119								120						121			122	123
124								125						126				
127								128						129				

- 80 Ticks off
81 Need a lift?
83 Brand of power tools
86 Vet, e.g.
89 Queen's honour: Abbr.
91 Brightly colored bird
92 Country whose flag says "God is great" 22 times
93 Chess champ Mikhail
95 Part of a jazz combo
96 Precious
97 Mexican shawls
99 _____ Gorilla,
1960s TV cartoon character
100 First of a kind
101 Betrayed
104 Raucous bird
106 Squirrel, e.g.
107 South American land
108 AI _____
109 Swiss city on the Rhine
112 Attraction: in a carbon dioxide molecule
113 Baby's "boo-boo"
114 Equivalent of 20 fins
115 Something clickable
117 Collette of "United States of Tara"
120 Blond shade
122 Bamboozle
123 City council rep.

GUNSTON STREET



"Gunston Street" is drawn by Basil Zaviski. Email him at gunstonstreet@yahoo.com, and visit gunstonstreet.com.

RESULTS FOR ABOVE PUZZLE

Q	R	V	G	N	V	I	S	X	I	L	E	H	E	X	O	E	G
E	T	T	O	R	N	E	V	N	E	I	S	E	I	N	E	I	N
E	T	V	I	S	E	I	S	O	S	O	S	O	S	O	S	O	S
S	N	I	S	E	I	S	O	S	O	S	O	S	O	S	O	S	O
O	O	G	I	O	V	E	L	E	I	S	E	I	S	E	I	S	E
R	I	V	E	H	E	X	O	E	G	I	S	E	I	S	E	I	S
O	D	H	E	I	S	E	I	S	O	S	O	S	O	S	O	S	O
O	I	O	H	O	G	O	V	E	L	E	I	S	E	I	S	E	I
O	O	S	E	I	S	E	I	S	O	S	O	S	O	S	O	S	O
E	N	I	S	E	I	S	O	S	O	S	O	S	O	S	O	S	O
B	R	E	S	E	I	S	O	S	O	S	O	S	O	S	O	S	O
E	E	R	I	S	O	S	O	S	O	S	O	S	O	S	O	S	O
W	N	E	I	S	E	I	S	O	S	O	S	O	S	O	S	O	S
V	I	S	E	I	S	O	S	O	S	O	S	O	S	O	S	O	S
E	I	S	E	I	S	O	S	O	S	O	S	O	S	O	S	O	S
L	V	H	V	E	L	E	I	S	E	I	S	E	I	S	E	I	S
S	I	N	E	I	S	O	S	O	S	O	S	O	S	O	S	O	S
W	N	E	I	S	E	I	S	O	S	O	S	O	S	O	S	O	S
O	N	V	E	L	E	I	S	E	I	S	E	I	S	E	I	S	E
O	N	I	S	O	S	O	S	O	S	O	S	O	S	O	S	O	S
R	E	O	V	E	H	E	X	O	E	G	I	S	E	I	S	E	I

KNOWLEDGE IS POWER.

Stripes CENTRAL

Stripes BLOGS

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PACIFIC SPORTSBLOG

PACIFIC STORM TRACKER

OMBUDSMAN

GADGETS & CHARTS

Spinning Stacy's tale

By Andrew A. Smith
McClatchy-Tribune News Service

You know Gwen Stacy is dead, right? I'm not talking about her fate in the movie "Amazing Spider-Man 2," now in theaters. I don't know that myself, and wouldn't tell you if I knew.

No, I'm talking about comic books, where Gwen Stacy has been dead since being thrown off a bridge by the Green Goblin in 1972.

That's a long time to be dead in comics. But the reasons for that and how it came about is a story in itself.

Where did Peter Parker first meet Gwen Stacy? Not at Parker's Midtown High! While many of the movies, cartoons and other Spidey media establish both Stacy and Mary Jane "MJ" Watson as Parker's contemporaries in high school, in the comics he met both in college.

Stacy appears for the first time in 1965, on Parker's first day of classes at Empire State University. As a science major, she appreciated Parker's intellectual gifts, but thought he was egotistical (because he didn't hang out with "the gang"), and that he was wasting his talents due to personal irresponsibility. Which is ironic, since a sense of responsibility is what drives Parker to constantly change into Spider-Man. But it was those changes — and Parker's unexplained absences — that led to Stacy's disdain.

Just as Gwen and Peter got over their initial misimpressions and started making goo-goo eyes at each other, Marvel editor and "Spider-Man" writer Stan Lee shook up the strip by creating a love triangle with the addition of red-haired party girl Mary Jane Watson. Her memorable introductory line in 1966 was, if anything, understated: "Face it, Tiger — you just hit the jackpot!"

This was the end result of a long-running gag in "Amazing Spider-Man." While Parker was still in high school, his doting Aunt May was always pushing for him to meet the niece of Mrs. Watson next door, a girl named Mary Jane.

Parker figured any day his aunt would approve of must be boring, and probably unattractive as well, so he was always finding excuses to avoid meeting her. The joke was, as the readers knew, MJ Watson was and is drop-dead gorgeous.

It was hilarious watching Parker squirm, trying desperately to avoid meeting a girl that would eventually make his eyes bug out. But it turns out the joke was on the book's creators, because MJ proved extremely popular with readers — more popular than Parker's ostensible girlfriend.

So Johnny (artist John Romita) and I had always planned for Peter to be in love with gorgeous



IMAGES COURTESY OF MARVEL ENTERTAINMENT INC./MCT

The fateful comic book, "Amazing Spider-Man" No. 121, in which Gwen Stacy dies.

Gwen," Lee said in his autobiography, "and one day end up marrying her. But somehow, Mary Jane was the one who seemed to come alive on the page. She crackled with energy, excitement, sex appeal. Much as we tried, we couldn't make Gwen as appealing as MJ."

So Gwen had to go. According to numerous accounts, it was Romita who suggested knocking her off. Once everyone signed off — although Lee says he doesn't remember doing so — Stacy's fate was sealed.

"The Night Gwen Stacy Died" appeared in "Amazing Spider-Man" No. 121. And naturally, fans howled with outrage.

Technically, it was Spider-Man — not the Green Goblin — who killed Gwen Stacy. The Goblin threw her off a bridge, sure, so legally, morally and in almost every other way, the Goblin is responsible for Stacy's demise. But Spider-Man tried to catch her with a quick shot of webbing — and when it made contact and arrested Stacy's fall, a small "SNAP" sound effect emanated from her neck. As the old joke goes, it isn't the fall that kills you, it's the abrupt stop at the end.

Fans were furious. It was one thing to kill Gwen Stacy, but the added detail that it was Spider-Man's attempts at rescue that actually did the deed just smacked of cruelty.

So endeth the Gwen Stacy story — at least in comics.

For most Spider-fans, Peter Parker's most famous and enduring girlfriend is MJ Watson, the girl he eventually married (at least for a little while) in 1987. But for fans of a certain age (cough, cough), Stacy is a fond, wistful Spider-memory, of Things That Might Have Been.

GADGET WATCH

Pelican cases built for pros

By Gregg Elluman
McClatchy-Tribune News Service

Pelican outs its reputation for making high-performance case solutions that are watertight, crushproof, dust proof and used by professionals in the most demanding situations including fire-fighters, police and military.

The Pelican 1560LOC overnight case (full of camera equipment) redefines the word "useful."

First, a little bit about Pelican cases: They are probably the most durable hard cases available. Composed of Polypropylene copolymer, a hard surface that can be stood on and dropped, they keep your valuables intact.

Pelican cases can tolerate temperatures ranging from minus 10 degrees to 210 degrees Fahrenheit and are water resistant.

Many can be ordered with customization to specific needs. For the 1560 tested (exterior dimensions 22.06-by-17.93-by-10.43 inches, 18.8 pounds), I had Velcro dividers along with my first look at the built-in compartments for holding a laptop and its accompanying accessories.

The dividers can be set up however you wish for any type of gear, but what got me hooked on this case was the laptop storage enabling everything to be in one case.

The padded laptop sleeve is attached to the inside front cover and can store a laptop up to 17 inches. Similar padded and removable sleeves surround the laptop for storing cables, chargers or whatever accessories are needed.

Once everything is stored to your liking, clip shut the easy-open and close latches, pull out

the retractable extension handle and start rolling.

Cases can be ordered with the Velcro dividers or foam to customize to your exact items. A personalized nameplate is also an option.

Online: pelican.com, \$249



Soundfreak's Sound Rise (SFQ-08) wireless speaker and alarm clock is a nightstand system designed the way a gadget like this should be: attractive, with great sound, taking up a small amount of space and able to use with any brand of wireless device.

Charging and docking are done with the included USB cable.

Your phone plugs into the USB port, which enables bedtime reading, texting or whatever you need.

As for the clock, it's a front-facing display that has controls to adjust the brightness with six display settings.

Audio is streamed with Bluetooth (4.0) into a great-sounding speaker system. If wireless streaming isn't your thing, there's an aux-in port for a wired connection.

There's also a backup battery compartment to keep the clock running in the event of a power failure.

Time in 12 or 24 hour settings, snoozing, sleeping, two alarms and even a FM radio is built-in if you want to go old school with the presets.

Controls on the Sound Rise (5.5-by-3-by-3.25 inches) are on the top for most settings.

Online: soundfreak.com; available in black (\$69) or wood/taupe (\$79) finishes



ITUNES MUSIC

Top 10 albums on the iTunes Store for May 7:

1. "Storyline," Hunter Hayes
2. "Ghost Stories," Coldplay
3. "Shine On" (Deluxe Edition), Sarah McLachlan
4. "iQW That's What I Call Music 50," Various Artists
5. "Southsiders" (Deluxe Version), Atmosphere
6. "Sheezus" (Deluxe Edition), Lily Allen
7. "Turn Blue," The Black Keys
8. "The Hunting Party," Linkin Park
9. "Just As I Am," Brantley Gilbert
10. "Steadication" (Deluxe Edition), Tech N9ne Collaboros

— Compiled by MCT

SPOTIFY MUSIC

The top streamed tracks on Spotify from April 28 to May 4:

1. Iggy Azalea, "Fancy"
2. John Legend, "All of Me"
3. Ariana Grande, "Problem"
4. Katy Perry, "Dark Horse"
5. Colvin Harris, "Summer"
6. Jason Derulo, "Talk Dirty" — feat. 2 Chainz
7. DJ Snake & Lil Jon, "Turn Down for What"
8. Bastille, "Pompeii"
9. Coldplay, "Magic"
10. Idina Menzel, "Let It Go"

— Compiled by The Associated Press

ITUNES MOVIES

Top 10 movies downloaded from the iTunes Store for May 7:

1. "Walk of Shame"
2. "The Monuments Men"
3. "Frozen"
4. "Ride Along"
5. "The Wolf of Wall Street"
6. "That Awkward Moment"
7. "The Secret Life of Walter Mitty"
8. "The Legend of Hercules"
9. "American Hustle"
10. "August: Osage County"

— Compiled by MCT

VIDEO GAMES

Game Informer Magazine rank the top 10 Xbox 360 games for May:

1. "Dark Souls II," Namco Bandai
2. "Titanfall," Electronic Arts
3. "South Park: The Stick of Truth," Ubisoft
4. "BioShock Infinite: Burial At Sea Episode 2," 2K Games
5. "Strider," Capcom
6. "2014 FIFA World Cup Brazil," EA Sports
7. "Child of Light," Ubisoft
8. "Legs The Hobbit," Warner Bros.
9. "The Wolf Among Us Episode 3 — A Crooked Mile," Telltale Games
10. "Tron: Evolution," Ubisoft

— Compiled by MCT

APPS

Top 5 new paid apps for May 7:

ANDROID

1. LEGO Star Wars Microfighters
2. The Amazing Spider-Man 2
3. XCOM: Enemy Unknown
4. Baldur's Gate Enhanced Edition
5. TurboScan: document scanner

Top 5 paid apps for May 7:

APPLE

1. Minecraft — Pocket Edition
2. The Amazing Spider-Man 2
3. Blek
4. Hooked on Phonics Learn to Read Classroom Edition
5. Sumatori Dreams

— Compiled by MCT

BOOKS

'A Man Called Destruction'

A revealing look at Alex Chilton, his troubled career

By RANDALL ROBERTS
Los Angeles Times

Most musicians would trade their soul for a No. 1 record and go on to carry that success like a trophy. So it's a measure of the late Alex Chilton's craft and personality that he's less defined by "The Letter," the 1967 guitar-pop gem by his band the Box Tops that hit when he was 16, than by the commercial failures that came after.

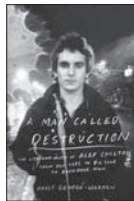
Rather, he's best known as the co-founder of the Memphis band Big Star whose classic three records, released from 1972 to 1978, have grown into some of the most acclaimed of that era. Remembered for songs such as "September Gurls," "Holo-caust" and "In the Street," the latter of which served as the theme song to "That '70s Show," Chilton is a stubborn, oft-inflaming charmer in Holly George Warren's "A Man Called Destruction: The Life and Music of Alex Chilton from Box Tops to Big Star to Backdoor Man."

Chilton's musical career lasted nearly 40 years, until his death in New Orleans in 2010. In that time he wrote visionary pop music in a flash with bandmates including Chris Bell, Andy Hummel and Jody Stephens before becoming so disillusioned by life — he attempted suicide on numerous occasions — that his ambivalence extended to music itself.

At his worst, he tore through friends, band members and women with reckless ambivalence. So far gone was he during the mixing of "Sister Lovers," for example, that his producer, Jim Dickinson, barred him from the studio, according to Warren.

"The first night of the first session I watched him shoot Demerol down his throat with a syringe," said

Alex Chilton, of the band Big Star. Courtesy of Magnolia Pictures



an often indifferent songwriter and his enduring work, or ignore the ugly truth behind classic lyrics such as "The drummer said you were not very clean/ And I know what he means" and remain blissfully enveloped within the music alone.

Warren devotes most time to Chilton's work and life in the 1970s and 1980s, when he moved from teen pop star to wandering troubadour to drunk to visionary experimenter and rockabilly sideman to devoted astrologer. While trying to get straight in the 1980s, the artist earned a living for a time as a cab driver, dishwasher and janitor.

Gradually he returned, eventually earning a decent living through the oldies circuit, the licensing of his music, as a solo artist and a member of a re-formed Big Star, adapting to his role-model status for bands including R.E.M. and the Replacements.

His was a strange path, as evidenced by the cameos in "Destruction," which include the Manson family, photographer William Eggleston, the Doors, lower east side New York scenesters and protopunks, production genius Dickinson (best known as pianist on the Rolling Stones' "Wild Horses"), a coterie of first-generation rock critics (Lester Bangs included), and the Beach Boys' Brian and Carl Wilson.

The handsome Chilton's love life could be just as dramatic. It included a few devoted girlfriends, a failed first marriage and untold numbers of groupies, the volume of which, as outlined in Warren's research, suggests a man who struggled against lechrouness as well as addiction and whose gifts, coupled with an increasing disinterest with marriage fame, suffered as a result.

By the time he died of a heart attack in 2010, the music he created had been widely recognized. Such acclaim never seemed to satisfy him — nor did he require it to. It's a credit to Warren's unflinching tone that the Chilton of "Destruction" is a charismatic, oft-frustrating man unwilling to kowtow to anything or anyone, including his muse and his legacy. You'll never hear his music the same way again.

New book provides backstage pass to rock history

By BROOKE LEFFERTS
The Associated Press

In the new book "There Goes Gravity: A Life in Rock and Roll," there's a telling photograph of Mick Jagger whispering into the ear of journalist Lisa Robinson as she smiles mischievously. The 1975 shot perfectly illustrates why Robinson's so good at what she does: her access to big talent, the trust she gains with her subjects and her love of music.

A lifetime New Yorker and now Vanity Fair music editor, Robinson fell into writing in 1969 when her future husband — rock writer and producer Richard Robinson — got her a gig writing for a music magazine, tapping into her passion and setting her on a path as one of the first female rock journalists.

The book focuses on the music, offering few personal details, but an intimate, familiar tone. After 45 years in the business, Robinson is still excited by live performances, and eagerly anticipates the next

moment of greatness.

"It never felt like a job; it was fun, it was new, it felt like a 'calling.' Whether I was in a private plane with Led Zeppelin or the Rolling Stones ... or standing in two inches of beer on the floor of CBGB's — it was exactly where I wanted to be," Robinson writes.

Robinson had the good luck and timing to witness the beginnings of many bands. Armed with a coveted backstage pass and multiple old-school cassette recorders (which she still uses), she was part of hundreds of entourage. The book highlights about a dozen acts

she suggests have been the most influential. She returned to interview favorites — including David Bowie, The Clash, Patti Smith, Eminem, Jay-Z and Lady Gaga — several times, delving deeper into the souls behind the talent.

Although she admits to trading gossip as one way of endearing herself to her subjects, Robinson is protective, avoiding sordid details of the groupie sex, violence and excessive drugs that occur on tours. "I was with them to get a story, not to judge," she writes.

Even the most media-wary artists come to trust Robinson because she's more than a critic, able to keep secrets and industry savvy. One of the few journalists to sit down with John Lennon and Yoko Ono, she offers fascinating quotes, but her rose-colored glasses are off when describing their reclusive, self-centered life in New York.

Robinson has a knack for getting subjects to share revealing personality traits that speak vol-

umes. After interviewing Michael Jackson several times in his rise to stardom, she notices he has two voices: one high and soft for the public, another normal and commanding for his inner circle.

When she asks U2's Bono how he handles home life after being on tour, he answers candidly. "In a very, very, very deep place I'm secure. And on the surface, secure. But somewhere in there, I need 20,000 screaming people a night to feel normal."

Tracing the evolution of U2, Robinson shows how, despite talent and good intentions, a band can lose its way in the tornado of success. In the group's "90s 'Popmart' phase, they let celebrity and philanthropy get in the way of the music.

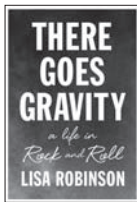
Always looking for edge, surprising talent, Robinson started to pay more attention to rap and hip-hop, recognizing the same anger and lyrical skills as punk rock. She bails Eminem (whose lyric is the book's title) and Kanye West

as often underappreciated artists who say what others are too afraid to say.

Robinson writes affectionately about most rockers but does get in a few jabs. She describes Lady Gaga as a gifted singer and musician who's connected to her audience, unlike Madonna, whom Robinson calls driven, humorless and lacking passion.

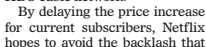
Her strength is putting music into historical context. She makes connections between bands, suggesting blues greats influenced the Stones, punk bands like The Clash led to U2, and the Jackson 5 inspired Jay Z. The book serves as a history lesson on how music has impacted American culture, touching on racism, drugs, AIDS, feminism, homosexuality, art, media and fashion.

Rock fans will likely be holding a proverbial lighter up after reading "There Goes Gravity." Robinson must have more than a few stories to share. If we're lucky, we'll get an encore.



Netflix ups price \$1 for new customers

Netflix says its needs more money so it can afford to pay for more original programming along the lines of its Emmy award-winning political drama



New Internet video customers can avoid the higher price if they are willing to settle for a little less clarity and flexibility.

Subscription prices also will be increasing by the equivalent of about \$1 a month in Netflix's markets outside the U.S.

MARKET WATCH	
May 9, 2014	
Dow Jones industrials	32.37 16,583.34
Nasdaq composite	20.37 4,071.87
Standard & Poor's 500	2.85 1,878.48
Russell 2000	9.79 1,107.22

MONDAY IN THE PACIFIC

CHINA

RUSSIA

N. KOREA

Seoul 71/54

Osan 72/57

Busan 73/58

Sasebo 77/63

S. KOREA

Sea of Japan

Iwakuni 73/61

JAPAN

Misawa 67/52

Tokyo 76/60

Pacific Ocean

Philippine Sea

Okinawa 77/74

Guam 83/78

Chy	Hi	Lo	Wthr	Chattanooga	49	Cld	Fort Wayne	79	64	Cldy	Louisville	86	69	Cldy	Pocatello	70	31	PCldy	Sioux City	67	50	Rain		
Abilene, Texas	95	66	PCldy	Chy	Cheyenne	35	29	Snow	Fresno	82	56	Cld	Lubbock	80	50	Cldy	Portland, Maine	72	49	Cld	Sioux Falls	62	46	Rain
Albany, N.Y.	73	49	Cld	Chicago	60	34	Cld	Grand Rapids	49	32	Rain	Madison	73	49	PCldy	Portland, Ore.	62	39	Cld	Spokane	62	42	PCldy	
Albuquerque	73	38	Cldy	Cincinnati	80	64	Cld	Grand Junction	49	32	Rain	Medford	74	46	PCldy	Providence	74	54	Cld	Springfield, Ill.	83	69	Rain	
Albany, N.Y.	73	49	Cld	Cleveland	76	60	PCldy	Grand Rapids	49	32	Rain	Midway	74	46	PCldy	Rain	72	49	Cld	Springfield, Mo.	76	54	Cld	
Amarillo	68	44	Cld	Colorado Springs	60	36	PCldy	Green Bay	71	54	Cldy	Harrisburg	85	76	Cldy	Rapid City	42	32	Snow	St. Louis	73	54	Cld	
Anchorage	67	42	Cld	Columbia, S.C.	90	66	PCldy	Green Bay	71	54	Cldy	Indianapolis	85	76	Cldy	Reynolds	66	45	Cld	Tallahassee	87	67	PCldy	
Antelope, Calif.	88	64	PCldy	Columbia, S.C.	85	67	Cld	Greensboro, N.C.	84	63	PCldy	Midland-Odesa	97	58	PCldy	Rockford	71	54	Cld	Tampa	89	74	Cld	
Atlanta	83	65	Cldy	Concord, N.H.	75	47	Cld	Hartford	73	53	Cld	Monmouth	88	58	PCldy	St. Paul	72	49	Cld	Tucson	84	66	PCldy	
Atlantic City	80	56	Cld	Concord, N.H.	75	47	Cld	Hartford Spgld	74	53	Cld	Mpls-St Paul	88	58	PCldy	Roanoke	88	64	PCldy	Topeka	84	63	Cld	
Austin	80	56	Cld	Concord, N.H.	75	47	Cld	Helena	73	53	Cld	Missoula	88	58	PCldy	Rochester	71	54	Cld	Tucson	84	66	PCldy	
Baltimore	81	60	Cld	Daytona Beach	75	60	PCldy	Honolulu	84	64	Cld	Minneapolis	88	58	PCldy	St. Louis	82	72	Rain	Tulsa	89	70	Cld	
Batimore	81	60	Cld	Dayton	79	64	Cldy	Houston	88	74	Cld	Montgomery	86	65	Cldy	Sacramento	82	52	Cld	Tupelo	86	58	PCldy	
Batimore	81	60	Cld	Daytona Beach	75	60	PCldy	Houston	88	74	Cld	Nashville	86	65	Cldy	St. Louis	82	72	Rain	Waco	87	73	Cld	
Batimore	81	60	Cld	Daytona Beach	75	60	PCldy	Houston	88	74	Cld	Nashville	86	65	Cldy	St. Louis	82	72	Rain	Washington, D.C.	87	73	Cld	
Batimore	81	60	Cld	Daytona Beach	75	60	PCldy	Houston	88	74	Cld	Nashville	86	65	Cldy	St. Louis	82	72	Rain	Washington, D.C.	87	73	Cld	
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Batimore	81	60	Cld	Daytona Beach	75	60	PCldy	Houston	88	74	Cld	Nashville	86	65	Cldy	St. Louis	82	72	Rain	Washington, D.C.	87	73	Cld	
Batimore	81	60	Cld	Daytona Beach	75	60	PCldy	Houston	88	74	Cld	Nashville	86	65	Cldy	St. Louis	82	72	Rain	Washington, D.C.	87	73	Cld	
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OPINION

Squashing dissent through intimidation

By GEORGE F. WILL

WASHINGTON
U.S. District Judge Rudolph T. Randa, revolted by the police-state arrogance of some elected prosecutors, has stopped a partisan abuse of law enforcement that was masquerading as political hygiene. Last Tuesday, Randa halted the corruption being committed by persons pretending to administer campaign regulations — regulations ostensibly enacted to prevent corruption or the appearance thereof. The prosecutors' cynical manipulation of Wisconsin's campaign laws is more than the mere appearance of corruption.

Eric O'Keefe's refusal to be intimidated by lawless law enforcement officials produced Randa's remarkably emphatic ruling against an especially egregious example of Democrats using government power to suppress conservatives' political speech.

Wisconsin's sordid episode began, appropriately, with a sound of tyranny — fists pounding on the doors of private citizens in pre-dawn raids. While sheriff's deputies used floodlights to illuminate the citizens' homes, armed raiders seized documents, computers, cellphones and other devices.

As a director of Wisconsin Club for Growth, which advocates limited government, O'Keefe had participated in his state's 2012 debate surrounding attempts by Democrats and state and national government-employee unions to recall Republican Gov. Scott Walker and some state senators. The recalls were intended as punishment for legislation limiting the unions' collective bargaining rights.

Walker prevailed. The Democratic prosecutors, however, seeking to cripple his 2014 re-election campaign and to damage him as a potential 2016 presidential aspirant, have resorted to a sinister Wisconsin process called a "John Doe investigation." It has focused on the activities of O'Keefe and 28 other conservative individuals or organizations.

In such investigations, prosecutors can promiscuously issue subpoenas and conduct searches. The identities of the targets



COURTESY OF THE U.S. DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF WISCONSIN/AP

District Judge Rudolph T. Randa halted a secret investigation Tuesday into conservative groups involved in recent recall campaigns.

are kept secret, and the targets are silenced by gag orders, thereby preventing public discussion of the process. Thus, John Doe investigations are effective government instruments of disruption and intimidation.

Randa correctly concluded that the John Doe investigation had no reasonable expectation of obtaining a conviction. But its aim, which had been achieved until Randa's ruling, was utterly unrelated to law. It was abetted by selective leaks by the prosecutors and by subpoenas sent to conservative donors and organizations nationwide. The purpose of all this was to suppress conservative political activity, consuming the time and other resources of conservative leaders, and by making people wary of collaborating with those targeted by a secretive criminal investigation.

O'Keefe and the other harassed conser-

vatives had engaged only in issue advocacy, not express advocacy. That is, they had not urged the election of specific candidates. The U.S. Supreme Court has held that government regulation of political speech is permissible only to prevent quid pro quo corruption — money purchasing political favors — resulting from *express advocacy*. Hence, there is no justification for the prosecutors' punitive investigation of O'Keefe's and others' issue advocacy. As Randa said, this has no "taint of quid pro quo corruption" and thus "is not subject to regulation."

The Democratic prosecutors must know this. Again, they ignore it because their aim is mayhem, not law enforcement. Their activity is entirely about suffocating conservative activity. Because the prosecutors know Wisconsin law, they are patently disingenuous in arguing that O'Keefe and others illegally "coordinated" their advocacy with Walker and other candidates or campaigns. Randa said "the record seems to validate" O'Keefe's and the others' denial of coordination.

Besides, and even more importantly, Randa said his court "need not make that type of factual finding." Wisconsin law forbids coordination between third-party groups, such as O'Keefe, and candidates only for *express* advocacy, and Randa said "it is undisputed" that O'Keefe and his group engaged only in issue advocacy. The prosecutors' indifference to this is their corruption.

Liberals inveighing against "dark money" in politics mean money contributed anonymously to finance political advocacy. Do not let anonymous liberal efforts to injure the livelihoods of identifiable conservatives by punishing them for their political participation and thereby deterring others from participating.

Campaign regulation, although invariably swathed in lofty rhetoric, is designed to end slavery. The children meet a carnal, anonymous liberal effort to injure the livelihoods of identifiable conservatives by punishing them for their political participation and thereby deterring others from participating.

George Will is a member of the Washington Post Writers Group.

N. Koreans disdain for black people has long history

By ISAAC STONE FISH

Foreign Policy

WASHINGTON
"In 1965, the Cuban ambassador to the DPRK (Democratic People's Republic of Korea), a black man, was squiring his wife and some Cuban doctors" around Pyongyang, the scholar of North Korea B.R. Myers wrote in his 2010 book, "The Cleanest Race." "Locals surrounded their car, pounding it and shouting racial epithets. Police called to the scene had to beat the mob back with truncheons."

I thought of this anecdote after reading about an anti-Obama rant published on May 2 by the Korean Central News Agency, which contained such quotes as "it would be perfect for Obama to live with a group of monkeys in the world's largest African national zoo and lick the bread crumbs thrown by spectators."

While news agencies run by the North Korean government regularly insult foreign officials, they usually don't use language redolent of Nazi pulp novels. I don't read Korean, but the translated excerpts are the angriest pieces of writing I've seen in a long time.

Myers argued in his book that North Korea is best understood not as a Communist society but one where race-based nationalism

As in many places around the world, North Korea reserves special vitriol for blacks.

is the state ideology. The country's forced cult of personality has fashioned the Kims into "motherly leaders" who are guardians of the Koreans' purity and innocence and protect them from the danger and contamination of the outside world. This helps explain the regime's longevity — 64 years and counting. Indeed, racial purity is the only thing that North Korea — whose population includes so few foreigners that it can plausibly claim to be 100 percent Korean — does better than everywhere else.

As in many places around the world, North Korea reserves special vitriol for blacks. After Dennis Rodman and members of the Harlem Globetrotters visited Pyongyang in January, a journalist from the online newspaper Daily NK claimed that a North Korean source told him people were "asking each other, 'Where did they find that group of goblins?'"

In a paper on North Korean relations, the researcher Benjamin R. Young cites several examples of the official media's degradation of blacks, including the 1985 anti-American film "The Tale of 15 Chil-

dren." In the movie, Americans capture 15 North Korean children and debate selling them into slavery. The children meet a cartoonishly incompetent African-American slave — played by a Korean in blackface — who is too dumb to speak. "The North Koreans understood that African-Americans were second-class citizens in the U.S. but they were also represented as less intelligent (if not subhuman) in North Korean propaganda," Young writes. (North Korea has decent ties with many African nations, but state ideology often doesn't interfere with foreign policy.)

In their 2009 book "The Hidden People of North Korea: Everyday Life in the Hermit Kingdom," Ralph Hassig and Kongdan Oh relayed the story of a May 2006 meeting between North and South Korean military officers. The southerner offensively mentions that rural farmers in South Korea sometimes take foreign brides — incensing the North Korean officer: "Our nation has always considered its pure lineage to be of great importance," he snarled. "Not even one drop of ink must be allowed to fall into the Han River."

It's hard to think of a more visceral symbol of North Korean racism than its fears of black polluting a clear river.

Isaac Stone Fish is an associate editor at Foreign Policy.

OPINION

It's time for honest conversation about military pay

By RAMIRO G. HINOJOSA

The military's top officers again warned Congress on Tuesday about the risks to operational readiness if they continue increasing military pay at the rate seen over the past decade. However, politicians still appear scared to touch such a political hot potato in an election year. As a former sergeant in the Army and Iraq combat veteran who has transitioned back to civilian life, I have to admit I agree with the generals.

The classic argument that military pay trails the civilian sector is no longer true, and the system needs to be revamped. A 2012 RAND Corporation study found that regular military compensation (the sum of basic pay, aver age housing and subsistence allowances, and the accrued federal income tax advantage of those allowances), adjusted for inflation, was up an average of 40 percent for enlisted and 25 percent for officers over the last decade. In contrast, civilian pay dropped approximately 4 percent to 8 percent between 2000 and 2009.

The Joint Chiefs of Staff have recommended capping pay raises at 1 percent, freezing the salaries of general and flag officers for one year and reducing the housing allowance by 5 percent.

The Military Officers Association of America says the Joint Chiefs' plan results in a \$5,000 reduction in purchasing power for a sergeant with a family of four. A private first class with dependents at Fort Bragg, N.C., receives nearly \$13,000 a year in a housing allowance alone. I expect less than that from my graduate assistant stipend next year, and I have seven years of military experience, four years of military experience and a bachelor's degree. But going to graduate school was a conscious decision of mine, as was enlisting to serve my country.

To be sure, there are financial concerns including messing with military service — including repeated moves, a challenging job market for spouses and problems translating military skills — that leaders must address. However, military pay needs a fresh look beyond a one-size-fits-all approach. For instance, increases in specialty pay based on who possesses more unique skill sets or is willing to accept the tougher assignments could offset reductions in regular military compensation. The Defense Department could also pay servicemembers more based not only on years in service but also



J. SCOTT APPLEWHITE/AP

Members of the Joint Chiefs of Staff testify before the Senate Armed Services Committee Thursday about Department of Defense proposals on military pay and compensation. From left are: Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Jonathan W. Greenert; Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Adm. James A. Winnefeld; Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Gen. Martin E. Dempsey; Chief of Staff of the Army Gen. Raymond T. Odierno; Chief of Staff of the Air Force Gen. Mark A. Welsh; and Chief of the National Guard Bureau Gen. Frank J. Grass.

on how many times they have deployed.

Means testing for officers is another reform opportunity; at what point in his or her career, with his or her accumulated wealth, does a major with no dependents stop needing \$31,000 a year in a housing allowance to live in Washington, D.C.?

It's been five years since I returned to the civilian world. Since then, I haven't planned on yearly pay raises or automatic cost of living adjustments, and I live in one of the fastest growing cities in the country. Like millions of Americans, I have to

constantly tailor my living expenses based on my financial ability. My fellow veterans and active-duty servicemembers should behave no differently.

As we transition toward new challenges, it is time to plan on slowing the growth of benefits, particularly basic pay and basic allowance for housing. There should be an announced implementation date, preferably after we have switched to an advisory role in Afghanistan. In this way, we keep our promise to active-duty troops who have already served, while also being forthright

about the benefits to future recruits.

Ultimately, America's long-term security depends on its ability to maintain a healthy, well-resourced military. This means pragmatic and honest efforts to answer the difficult questions about providing for the long-term welfare of those who protect and serve.

Ramiro G. Hinojosa is a member of the Truman National Security Project's Defense Council. He served in Iraq as a team leader with the 82nd Airborne Division in 2006-07. Ram is now a political research analyst.

An ineffective leader of the VA, Shinseki must 'get out of the way'

By REP. MIKE COFFMAN

My late father was a WWII and Korean War combat veteran who retired as an Army major sergeant. I would often hear him say that the best officers were the ones who "took care of their troops."

The mission of the Department of Veterans Affairs is to "take care of the troops" by providing them with the benefits that the men and women who served our nation in uniform — and who were often required to make tremendous sacrifices in defense of our freedom — have earned.

Since January 2013, I've served as the chairman of the House Veterans' Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee, which is tasked with making sure that the VA meets all of our nation's obligations to our veterans.

Unfortunately, I've been shocked and disappointed at the systemic failures of the VA, impacting everything from delays and cost overruns at major VA medical construction projects to glaring patient safety problems resulting in preventable deaths and the in-

Secretary (Eric) Shinseki owes his resignation to the same men and women who served under him in the Army because he has failed so miserably to "take care of the troops."

ability of the VA to resolve the tremendous backlog of veterans' disability claims in a timely manner.

In almost every instance when a problem has arisen, the response by VA Secretary Eric Shinseki — assuming that he publicly expresses one at all — is defensive. If anything, he appears bothered by the unending criticism facing his department, not by how the lives of our veterans and their families, whom he is sworn to serve, have been impacted by problems within the VA.

He seems far more interested in serving the needs of VA bureaucrats than meeting the needs of our veterans and their families. There is simply no problem that is too great to devise an excuse for or try to explain away.

Even when the evidence of mismanage-

ment is overwhelming, I've never heard Secretary Shinseki say, "The way veterans are being treated by the VA is outrageous. This is unacceptable. It's got to stop, and I'm going to hold those at the VA who are responsible for this accountable for their actions."

Senior managers in the VA under his so-called leadership are never fired or even disciplined for misconduct, negligence or simply poor performance. The leadership of the VA never claims to be aware of any problems until they have been made public either by whistleblowers from within the VA, the work of Veteran Service Organizations or investigations conducted by my subcommittee.

Secretary Shinseki owes his resignation to the same men and women who served

under him in the Army because he has failed so miserably to "take care of the troops" who are no longer on active duty but who are now under the care of the VA. If the VA was a military organization run by the same standards that Gen. Shinseki demanded of his subordinate leaders during his career in the Army, he would have been relieved of his command a long time ago for his failure to effectively provide leadership.

I followed my late father's footsteps and enlisted in the U.S. Army as soon as I was old enough to serve. As a young soldier, I can remember the motto that was inscribed over the entrance to our barracks. It read: "Lead, follow or get out of the way."

As a former soldier, I respect Secretary Shinseki's military record of leadership during his career in the Army, but he has not been effective in leading the VA, a large civilian organization, and it is now time for him to "get out of the way" by resigning.

U.S. Rep. Mike Coffman, R-Colo., served for a combined 21 years between the U.S. Army, the Army Reserve, the U.S. Marine Corps and the Marine Corps Reserve. He is a veteran of both the first Gulf War and the Iraq War.

NHL PLAYOFFS

Scoreboard

Second round

(Best-of-7; x-if necessary)

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Montreal 4, Boston 3, 2OT

Boston 5, Montreal 0, 2OT

Montreal 4, Boston 2

Boston 1, Montreal 0, OT

Saturday at Montreal

x-Wednesday at Boston

Pittsburgh 3, N.Y. Rangers 2

N.Y. Rangers 3, Pittsburgh 2, OT

Pittsburgh 3, N.Y. Rangers 0

Pittsburgh 4, N.Y. Rangers 2

Friday: N.Y. Rangers 5, Pittsburgh 1

Sunday at N.Y. Rangers

x-Tuesday at Pittsburgh

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Chicago 2, Minnesota 2

Chicago 4, Minnesota 1

Minnesota 4, Chicago 0

Friday: Minnesota 4, Chicago 2

Sundays at Chicago

x-Thursdays at Chicago

Los Angeles 2, Anaheim 1

Los Angeles 3, Anaheim 2, OT

Los Angeles 3, Anaheim 1

Anaheim 3, Los Angeles 2

Saturday at Los Angeles

x-Wednesday at Anaheim

x-Friday, May 16: at Anaheim

Friday

Wild 4, Blackhawks 2

Chicago 1 1 0-2

Minnesota 1 2 1-4

First Period—1, Minnesota, Fontaine 1

(Cooke), 7:24; 2, Chicago, Sharp 2 (Hossa,

Rosival), 19:21.

Second Period—3, Minnesota, Pominville 1, 1:51; 4, Chicago,

Handzus 1 (Seabrook, Hossa), 6:28; 5,

Minnesota, Niederreiter 3 (Coyte, Spurgeon), 7:12.

Third Period—6, Minnesota, Spurgeon

3 (Kovalev, Suter), 3:47 (pp).

Shots on goal—Chicago 4-9-7—20.

Minnesota 7-18-6—31.

Power-play opportunities—Chicago 0

of 2; Minnesota 1 of 5.

Goalies—Chicago, Crawford 6-4-0 (31

shots-27 saves). Minnesota, Bryzgalov

3-4-0 (29-18).

A—19,405 (17,954). T—2:32.

Rangers 5, Penguins 1

N.Y. Rangers 2 2 1-5

Pittsburgh 0 1 0-1

First Period—1, N.Y. Rangers, Kreider

1 (McDonagh, Richards), 9:38 (pp). 2,

N.Y. Rangers, Brassard 2 (Zuccarello,

Pruitt), 15:23.

Second Period—3, Pittsburgh, Malkin

6 (Letang), 3:23; 4, N.Y. Rangers, Bras-

sard 3 (Stralman, Zuccarello), 7:58; 5, N.Y.

Rangers, McDonagh 1 (Zuccarello, Bras-

sard), 8:48 (pp).

Third Period—6, N.Y. Rangers, Klein 1

(Kreider, Nash), 17:21 (pp).

Shots on goal—N.Y. Rangers 17-9-9—

39; Pittsburgh 18-13-6—37.

Power-play opportunities—N.Y. Rangers

2 of 3; Pittsburgh 0 of 4.

Goalies—N.Y. Rangers, Lundqvist 4-6-

0 (32 shots-31 saves). Pittsburgh, Fleury

7-4-0 (34-30).

A—18,633 (18,387). T—2:32.

Calendar

May 25-31—NHL combine, Toronto.

June 18—Last possible day for Stan-

ley to be traded.

June 25—NHL awards, Las Vegas.

June 27-28—NHL draft, Philadelphia.

Rangers rout Pens, avoid elimination

By WILL GRAVES

The Associated Press

PITTSBURGH — Martin St. Louis has only been in New York a few months.

Still, the Rangers' locker room feels like home, a sanctuary the veteran forward needed while trying to deal with one of the worst days of his life.

Only hours removed from sitting with his family in Montreal trying to come to grips with the death of his mother, St. Louis was in Pittsburgh with his teammates for an emotional 5-1 victory in Game 5 that extended New York's season and served as a fitting tribute to someone St. Louis called "the best human being I ever met."

"She was with me the whole way," St. Louis said.

St. Louis and his father talked about whether he should just stay in Canada to mourn. They both knew what France St. Louis would have said.

"I owed it to her to do it," St. Louis said. "I know she would



GENE J. PUSKAS/AP

The Rangers' Martin St. Louis, right, can't get a shot past Penguins goalie Marc-Andre Fleury and Rob Scuderi on Friday. The Rangers won 5-1 to cut the Penguins' series lead to 3-2.

have wanted me to play. I was a tough day for everyone, but we've got to keep pushing."

Now it's on to Game 6 — Mother's Day — for a series that suddenly looks competitive now that the Rangers have apparently

solved their woes with the man advantage.

Derick Brassard scored twice, Chris Kreider, Ryan McDonagh and Kevin Klein added their first goals of the postseason for New York and Henrik Lundqvist

stopped 31 shots.

St. Louis had one shot in 16:19 of ice time, all of it with his mother in his thoughts.

The Rangers certainly looked at ease while the Penguins failed to win a close-out game for the sixth time in their last seven chances on home ice. Eveni Malkin had his third goal of the series for Pittsburgh and Marc-Andre Fleury made 30 saves but lacked the crispness that allowed the Penguins to sweep Games 3 and 4 in New York.

"I don't think there's much good to take from it to be honest with you," Pittsburgh star Sidney Crosby said. "So I think we have to make sure we come with the right mindset going to New York. Whatever mindset we were tonight it wasn't enough."

Pittsburgh committed a pair of sloppy penalties the Rangers finally turned into goals and couldn't convert a lengthy 5-on-3 power play late in the second period as it tried to climb out of a three-goal deficit.

Wild get even with Blackhawks

By DAVE CAMPBELL

The Associated Press

ST. PAUL, Minn. — The Minnesota Wild have turned their home ice into a welcoming, discouraging place for opponents to play in the playoffs.

For the second straight game, they dominated the defending Stanley Cup champion Chicago Blackhawks.

Jason Pominville scored in the second period off the back of Chicago goalie Corey Crawford's skate, and the Wild beat the Blackhawks 4-2 on Friday night to even their Western Conference semifinal at two games apiece.

"It's been fun to play here. I don't know what it is, but we have to find a way to bring that on the road as well," said Jared Spurgeon, whose third-period goal gave the Wild a cushion for the final stretch while the fans cheered and chanted louder and louder.

"They play hard in their building, and they're good in their building, and they check well so it's tough to get momentum in here,"

Blackhawks coach Joel Quenneville said.

Matt Cooke returned from his seven-game kneeling suspension to give the Wild a jolt, assisting on Justin Fontaine's opening goal, and Nino Niederreiter also scored.

"I think I should have fresh legs. I have to go out there and lead the way. Hopefully my energy is contagious," Cooke said.

Cooke had a team-high five hits — the Blackhawks were only credited with seven — to help the Wild hold an intensity advantage from start to finish.

"He brings a physical presence," the Blackhawks captain Jonathan Toews. "You never know what he's going to do, so you've got to be aware of him out there."

Crawford made 27 saves, but he gave up four goals for the second straight game.

Patrick Sharp snapped out of his slump with his second postseason goal and Michael Handzus also scored, but the Blackhawks again found themselves unable to establish a consistent attack against the Wild's stifling defense.



ANN HEISENFELZ/AP

Wild left wing Matt Cooke, left, celebrates after teammate Justin Fontaine scored on Blackhawks goalie Corey Crawford, right, during the first period Friday.

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BASEBALL STATISTICS

American League

TEAM	BATTING	AB	R	H	HR	BB	Avg
Detroit	1066	149	301	27	145	282	
Chicago	1306	193	350	40	181	268	
Minnesota	1198	161	319	29	158	263	
Baltimore	1152	141	303	29	138	263	
Seattle	1258	177	313	34	165	263	
Toronto	1249	181	324	50	170	259	
Chicago City	1240	138	311	14	126	258	
Tampa Bay	1246	149	310	30	140	255	
Los Angeles	1207	172	306	41	166	254	
Brewer	1185	146	310	31	135	254	
Minnesota	1281	161	286	24	147	242	
Boston	1183	141	286	27	132	242	
Cleveland	1189	146	284	27	138	240	
Seattle	1188	142	271	27	133	228	
Houston	1204	158	284	39	115	218	

INDIVIDUAL BATTING

AB	R	H	HR	BB	Avg
Almaraz CWS	146	24	3	16	.334
Choo Tex	107	17	35	3	.340
McCabe Tor	154	23	52	16	.333
Hosmer KC	143	15	46	1	.318
Winters Bal	99	13	32	5	.312
Martinez Tex	115	14	34	1	.305
Trotter Hunter	111	15	35	4	.305
DeJesus Min	149	16	40	1	.305
Markakis Bal	137	15	43	2	.312
Rowdy Det	96	17	30	2	.313
Loney TB	125	19	39	19	.312
Rios Tex	138	14	43	2	.312
Viciedo CWS	121	17	32	2	.310
Kinsler Det	131	21	40	2	.306
Aklavson Det	105	18	32	2	.305
Swanson Min	115	14	31	1	.302
Ksuzul Min	96	7	29	1	.302
Hendrick LAA	136	14	42	2	.300
Brantley Cle	128	30	38	2	.297
Mauer Min	115	22	34	2	.296
Alfonso Tex	128	15	36	2	.293
DNavarro Tor	104	13	30	1	.288
Canio Sea	139	16	40	1	.288
Joyce TB	114	17	37	1	.287
Pujols LAA	136	23	39	1	.287
Brantley Cle	133	20	38	3	.286
Aoki KC	134	19	38	0	.284
Trotter LAA	134	25	38	7	.284
Napoli Bos	117	13	32	1	.283
Napoli Bos	114	13	35	0	.282
McCarber Det	128	15	36	1	.281
Jabreu CWS	147	26	41	13	.279
N Cruz Bal	126	22	35	9	.278
Abel LAA	130	21	36	16	.277
Pedroia Bos	145	22	40	1	.276
AEScorbier KC	121	17	33	1	.273
Altuve Hou	146	13	40	1	.270
Longoria TB	111	16	31	1	.267
Kubel Min	116	12	31	1	.267
Cossettes Oak	116	18	32	1	.267
Donaldson Oak	150	28	40	7	.267
Alfonso Bal	135	16	36	2	.267
Infante KC	132	18	32	1	.266
DeJennings TB	124	19	33	4	.266
Colabello Min	132	13	35	4	.265
Kinsler Det	116	18	31	1	.267
Bogaerts Bos	114	13	30	1	.263
Crisp Oak	127	16	32	1	.263
SPerez KC	122	13	33	1	.263
Ortiz Bos	124	14	32	6	.258
Adams CWS	106	12	26	1	.257
AGordon KC	136	16	35	1	.257
DavMunich Cle	105	15	27	1	.257
Lowrie Oak	133	20	34	2	.256
ACabreera Cle	130	18	33	3	.254
Brothers NY	99	15	25	1	.253
Jeter NY	111	8	28	1	.252
Encarnacion Tor	139	21	35	6	.253
Myers TB	137	19	34	4	.248
Andrus Tex	137	20	34	1	.248
Castanos Det	101	19	26	1	.248
Ploeffe Min	134	20	33	1	.246
Smolack Sea	126	17	31	1	.245
Yescobar TB	123	4	30	2	.244
Beltran NY	119	14	29	5	.244
Fowler Det	124	30	38	8	.242
Ackley Sea	100	14	24	1	.240
Alfonso Min	110	14	24	1	.240
Seager Sea	117	15	28	5	.239
Callaspo Oak	109	11	26	3	.239
Alfonso NY	144	20	40	1	.238
Dozier Min	135	32	32	8	.237
Butler KC	123	11	29	1	.236

Schoop Bal	102	11	24	3	14	.235
ColasRamos Tor	126	19	30	9	19	.234
Kipnis Cle	94	12	22	3	12	.234
Millar Hou	117	11	27	1	13	.231
Fielder Tex	130	19	30	3	13	.231
Lewrie Tor	118	14	27	6	21	.229
Marlon Min	111	11	27	1	13	.229
Reddick Oak	104	12	23	1	9	.221
Semien CWS	138	20	34	3	17	.217
Castro Sea	111	15	24	3	14	.217
Jacstro Hou	107	11	23	4	14	.215
Harmon Min	141	14	24	14	24	.215
Swisher Cle	136	15	28	2	13	.206
Bradley Jr Bos	103	14	21	0	13	.206
De Aza CWS	106	10	21	0	10	.206
Almonte Sea	106	10	21	1	8	.198
BMiller Sea	112	11	20	3	9	.197
Carter Hou	111	12	18	3	14	.192
Ibanez LAA	97	8	14	3	18	.144
Castas KC	106	15	4	14	12	.142
CSantana Cle	122	15	7	4	11	.139

TEAM PITCHING

ERA	H	ER	BB	SO	Sh	V	L
2.97	274	77	104	287	4	6	
3.46	246	107	87	256	1	1	
3.49	288	122	102	272	8	8	
3.55	282	123	122	267	1	11	
3.74	320	133	108	294	0	10	
3.77	299	132	131	297	3	11	
3.86	268	133	131	293	7	7	
4.06	251	119	116	269	1	1	
4.10	340	160	90	303	2	12	
4.34	322	157	122	277	3	3	
4.37	311	146	109	291	1	1	
4.46	338	158	112	254	8	8	
4.51	314	146	109	291	1	1	
4.65	324	172	160	245	0	5	
4.90	329	175	128	258	0	6	

INDIVIDUAL PITCHING

IP	H	BB	SO	W	L	ERA
47	33	12	60	4	1	1.72
47	11	14	146	285	9	1.31
47	39	16	40	4	1	1.91
46	26	11	41	2	2	2.00
46	37	13	54	3	1	2.33
44	35	10	42	2	1	2.47
49	42	7	58	5	2	2.57
49	43	10	58	3	4	2.59
44	38	1	38	4	1	2.64
54	50	21	63	4	4	2.63
53	48	12	48	4	3	2.70
44	34	25	40	1	3	2.99
45	30	20	46	3	0	2.80
53	51	10	32	3	1	3.04
44	34	25	40	1	3	2.99
40	35	13	36	3	2	3.18
48	38	16	46	4	2	3.21
41	35	19	37	3	3	3.27
44	38	13	35	3	2	3.48
46	46	11	43	4	2	3.72
43	42	14	37	1	3	3.80
40	46	18	32	1	3	3.82
49	46	24	48	2	1	3.86
46	45	11	23	2	3	3.91
41	47	6	32	4	3	3.92
41	50	9	32	4	2	3.95
41	41	14	41	2	4	4.17
43	46	11	34	2	3	4.22
39	29	18	28	1	3	4.50
40	44	17	34	1	3	4.53
38	35	12	24	2	1	4.54
36	33	15	23	1	4	4.54
48	46	21	44	3	3	4.55
40	43	20	34	2	4	4.73
38	50	20	19	2	4	4.74
40	44	20	34	2	4	4.74
42	41	21	29	3	2	4.93
38	33	15	34	4	3	4.93
35	40	15	24	1	3	5.09
37	35	18	30	0	5	5.19
44	48	16	34	1	5	5.25
35	44	15	44	1	3	5.65
38	49	11	31	0	5	5.68
44	44	11	9	4	4	5.75
38	50	12	20	1	6	6.34
36	52	11	27	2	3	6.44

National League

TEAM	BATTING	AB	R	H	HR	BB	Avg
Colorado	1329	218	403	51	211	303	
Miami	1022	161	312	35	155	260	
San Francisco	1204	143	306	34	130	258	
Los Angeles	1298	149	326	35	143	251	
Philadelphia	1181	132	284	24	116	251	
Arizona	1237	142	330	30	134	249	
Cincinnati	1334	130	282	30	133	249	
San Diego	1233	131	306	23	126	248	
Milwaukee	1237	142	305	37	133	247	
Pittsburgh	1216	140	295	32	133	243	
San Francisco	1208	150	288	44	147	238	
Atlanta	1154	108	271	34	102	235	
New York	1161	133	261	20	126	225	
San Diego	1231	102	269	22	95	219	

Chicago	1162	131	264	30	125	22
New York	1161	133	261	20	126	22
San Diego	1231	102	269	22	95	21
INDIVIDUAL BATTING						
	R	H	HR	BB	Avg	
Tulowitzki Col	117	35	47	10	32	.402
Blackmon Col	136	30	47	7	26	.346
Morneau Col	133	18	45	7	27	.338
Uley Phi	125	20	42	3	16	.336
Goldschmidt Ari	155	27	52	7	23	.335
DGordon LAD	137	19	45	1	10	.328
Freeman Ari	131	19	42	0	31	.320
LaRoche Was	113	18	36	5	21	.319
AMCutchten Pit	135	19	43	4	18	.319
Pagan SF	133	15	42	3	15	.311
Arenado Col	149	22	47	6	26	.315

MLB

AL roundup

Darvish falls short of no-no again

The Associated Press

ARLINGTON, Texas — Yu Darvish thought he had given up a hit when Boston slugger David Ortiz made contact.

The Texas Rangers ace was talking about the popup in the seventh that was ruled an error without being touched. Not the clean single by Ortiz through the shifted infield with two outs in the ninth that did break up the no-hitter in the Rangers' 8-0 victory Friday night.

"Obviously I was a little disappointed, but I was already ready to give up a hit, so it didn't really matter," Darvish said through his interpreter about the error that led to Boston's first runner. "But I was getting tired, so I thought it could have been a hit so I don't have to pitch that many more innings."

It was another near-miss for Darvish, who came within one out of a perfect game last season against Houston before Marwin Gonzalez singled through his legs.

"If I keep pitching like this, someday I'll get it," Darvish said. "Someday, I'll just keep doing what I'm doing and I'll probably have another record of almost a no-hitter." Darvish (3-1) struck out 12, including six Red Sox in a row at one point, and walked two. He was his 21st career game with at least 10 strikeouts, the most in the majors since his debut in 2012 after coming from Japan.

"He had great stuff. He was locating everything," Red Sox second baseman Dustin Pedroia said. "He was on his game. When a guy like that, with that kind of stuff, is on his game, it makes it a tough night."

Rookie second baseman Rougned Odor, positioned in shallow right field, made a diving attempt at Ortiz's hit but the ball was out of reach. If the Rangers had not

shifted their infield toward the right side of the diamond — a standard practice against the pull-happy Ortiz — it probably would have been a routine grounder to second.

Darvish bent his knees and put his glove on his hips after the base hit. Texas manager Ron Washington then made a slow walk to the mound, with the 45,392 in attendance cheering and chanting "Yuuuuuu!"

Alexi Ogando got out Mike Napoli to wrap up the Rangers' second consecutive shutout since giving up 29 runs in three games to Colorado.

The closest Boston had come to a hit before then was the high pop to right by Ortiz with two outs in the seventh.

Odor was also shifted into shallow right then and drifted back for the ball while right fielder Alex Rios came in before suddenly stopping. Odor, the 20-year-old playing in his second major league game, then lunged with his glove extended above his head but the ball dropped between them. Darvish then walked Napoli.

An error was charged to Rios after official scorer Steve Weller looked at replays and conferred with several others because of the significance of the play.

"I should have taken control of that ball," Rios said. "We were camped under the ball, so it can be called an error."

Angels 4, Blue Jays 3: Raul Ibanez hit a tiebreaking sacrifice fly in the ninth inning. Mike Trout connected for a solo homer and the visiting Angels won their fifth straight game in Toronto.

Erick Aybar had three hits and scored twice, including the decisive run in the ninth, as the Angels won for the eighth time in nine meetings with the Blue Jays and halted Toronto's season-long winning streak at five games.

Orioles 4, Astros 3: Steve Pearce and

Manny Machado homered, and the host Orioles won a season-high fourth consecutive game.

Baltimore (19-14) is five games over .500 for the first time this season. Meanwhile, the Astros have lost six of seven.

Orioles starter Wei-Yin Chen (4-2) allowed two runs and five hits in seven innings. Tommy Hunter allowed a run in the ninth before finishing for his 11th save in 12 chances.

Twins 2, Tigers 1: Phil Hughes pitched seven scoreless innings, and the visiting Twins beat Justin Verlander for the first time in over four years.

Kurt Suzuki hit a two-run single off Verlander (4-2) in the seventh. Hughes (4-1) allowed eight hits in his fourth consecutive win.

Verlander allowed two runs and seven hits in seven innings. He struck out five and walked two.

Indians 6, Rays 3: Mike Aviles hit a three-run homer during a five-run seventh inning. Corey Kluber went 6 1/3 effective innings, and the visiting Indians stopped a seven-game road losing streak.

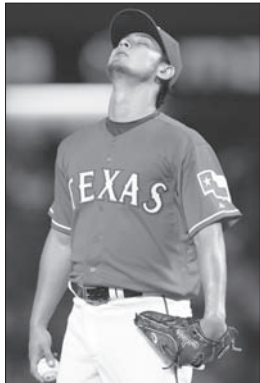
Cleveland also got solo homers from Asdrubal Cabrera and Michael Brantley. Kluber (3-3) allowed two runs and nine hits with nine strikeouts.

Royals 6, Mariners 1: Jason Vargas pitched seven scoreless innings and visiting Kansas City had 16 singles in the victory.

Vargas (3-1), who pitched for the Mariners for four seasons from 2009 to 2012, allowed three hits and walked none. He is 3-1 with a 1.59 ERA in four career starts against his former team.

Interleague

White Sox 9, Diamondbacks 3: Alexei Ramirez hit a grand slam in host Chicago's



TONY GUTIERREZ/AP

The Rangers' Yu Darvish pauses as he stands on the mound after Boston's David Ortiz reached first on an error by right fielder Alex Rios in the seventh inning. The Japanese ace fell one out shy of a no-hitter for the second time.

seven-run fourth inning, and Jose Abreu hit his major league-leading 13th homer to lead the White Sox to the win.

Abreu was the designated hitter because of a nagging left ankle injury. He went 3-for-4 and leads the AL with 37 RBIs.

Athletics 8, Nationals 0: Host Oakland's Tommy Milone tossed eight innings of two-hit ball for his first win of the season.

Brandon Moss homered and finished with three RBIs, and Yoenis Cespedes and John Jaso each hit a solo shot to beat Milone's gem. The left-hander struck out seven and walked three.

NL roundup

Jeter eludes hug-seeking fan in win over Brewers

The Associated Press

MILWAUKEE — The fan wanted a hug. Derek Jeter just wanted to get out of the way.

Jeter calmly eluded a fan that tried to meet him in the sixth inning of the New York Yankees' 5-3 victory against the Milwaukee Brewers on Friday night.

Masahiro Tanaka pitched into the seventh and Yangervis Solarte hit a three-run homer for the Yankees, who have won three straight and four of six.

It was New York's first game in Milwaukee since 2005, and it took a surprising turn when a guy jumped out of the left-field stands and walked briskly toward Jeter at shortstop in the sixth inning.

Jeter didn't appear to notice the fan at first. Jeter, who plans to retire after this season, took a few steps away as several security guards rushed in to tackle the person.

Jeter said the guy, who was wearing a Ryan Braun jersey and white bandana, didn't appear threatening.

"His face was calm," Jeter said. "He was saying he wanted a hug. I was thinking I wasn't going to



JEFFREY PHELPS/AP

A fan runs out on the field in the sixth inning Friday to ask the Yankees' Derek Jeter for a hug in Milwaukee. The Yankees won 5-3.

hug him. That was pretty much it. It happened pretty quick. I didn't even see him until he got past the third-base line."

Jeter warned the guy he had made a big mistake.

"I told him, 'You're going to get in trouble,'" Jeter said. "Then he repeated that he wanted a hug. I

said, 'Look out.'"

That's when several security guards flattened the guy and then hauled him away.

"If you saw his face, he wasn't coming out there with anger," Jeter said. "So, no, I wasn't scared."

But Yankees manager Joe Girardi was worried about Jeter.

"It was like, 'Derek, move,'" Girardi said. "Derek just kind of stood there. Obviously, he didn't feel threatened. It's not what you want because you never know what people are up to. It's an unfortunate part of the game."

Tanaka (5-0) allowed two runs and seven hits in his first interleague game. The Japanese right-hander struck out seven and walked one.

Tanaka also struck out in each of his first three major league at-bats.

Reds 3, Rockies 0: Joey Votto hit a game-ending solo homer, and host Cincinnati shut down Nolan Arenado.

Arenado went 0-for-3, snapping his hitting streak at a club-record 28 games, the longest in the majors this season. But Arenado walked and scored on Justin Morneau's tying double in the ninth.

Giants 3, Dodgers 1: Madison Bumgarner pitched eight superb innings and Brandon Crawford hit a two-run homer, leading visiting San Francisco.

The Giants' 12th victory in 15 games came at a cost. Brandon Belt broke his left thumb when he was hit by Paul Maholm's first

pitch of the second inning. The first baseman, who leads the club with nine homers, ran the bases until the inning was over but was replaced by Joaquin Arias.

Padres 10, Marlins 1: Jedd Gyorko hit two home runs off Jose Fernandez and host San Diego snapped a three-game losing streak.

Pirates 6, Cardinals 4: Neil Walker had three hits, including a go-ahead three-run home run in the seventh inning, and drove in four runs to power host Pittsburgh past St. Louis.

Braves 3, Cubs 2 (10): Freddie Freeman's single up the middle drove in Jason Heyward from second base in the 10th inning and host Atlanta recovered from Craig Kimbrel's blown save to beat Chicago.

Kimbrel couldn't hold a 2-1 lead in the ninth after Julio Teheran allowed only one hit — Mike Olt's homer — in eight innings.

Phillies 3, Mets 2 (11): Marlon Byrd sliced an RBI double just inside the right field line in the 11th inning, and Philadelphia beat host New York in a game of many squandered opportunities.

NFL DRAFT

Raiders, Patriots nab QBs in second round

By BARRY WILNER

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — The only two quarterbacks chosen on the second day of the NFL Draft Friday have a lot to emulate.

Derek Carr's guiding light has been older brother David, the top overall pick in the 2002 draft. Jimmy Garoppolo's favorite player has been Tom Brady, the 199th selection in 2000.

The problem for Carr, taken fourth in the second round by Oakland, is that David was only mediocre as a pro. The issue for Garoppolo, chosen 62nd overall by New England, is, well, can anyone really live up to Brady's career?

"I learned everything that he did right and everything that he did wrong," Derek Carr said of David, 11 years his elder. "He told me that if he could do anything, he hopes he made the path smoother for me as I transition into the NFL."

The two were among dozens of picks made Friday as the NFL Draft wrapped up Rounds 2 and 3 at Radio City Music Hall. The first day shattered all-time television viewership records and fed a roaring crowd, but the second day was more subdued.

Carr's older brother, David, was the first player ever taken by the Houston Texans. Derek, who also went to Fresno State and, like his elder brother enters the league with a wife and child, went 36th

overall.

Derek Carr must hope he gets better protection with the Raiders than David did with Houston. David Carr never reached the expectations of a No. 1 pick, in part because he was sacked so often during his time with the Texans.

Derek Carr rewrote the Bulldogs' record book, throwing for more than 10,000 yards and 100 touchdown passes. He led Fresno State to consecutive Mountain West Conference titles in his final two seasons and passed for 5,082 yards and 50 touchdowns in 2013. He guided a spread offense that relied on his quick decision making, fast release and ability to move in the pocket. All in a season where his son was born with a serious problem with his intestines a month before he stepped on the field.

Oakland acquired veteran Matt Schaub to be its starter, but he will get a serious push from Carr. "They want me to come in, work hard, compete," Carr said. "Whenever I'm the quarterback, great. To me, it doesn't matter what the situation is — if I'm a starter, if I'm a backup, there to learn."

Garoppolo couldn't have said it any better. The star on the FCS level at Eastern Illinois, which produced Tony Romo, went to New England near the end of the second round. Could he be the heir to Tom Brady?

"It's a fun offense, lot of different variables. It's an offense that



CRAIG KOHLRUSS, FRESNO BEE/MT

The Oakland Raiders drafted Fresno State quarterback Derek Carr with the fourth pick of the second round of the NFL Draft on Friday. Carr is the younger brother of former No. 1 overall pick David Carr.

fits me," Garoppolo said. "This is a picture-perfect fit for me."

"I feel good about it. Whether I was coming in as the starter or as the backup, I'm going to go in and approach it the same way. I'm going to go out there and try to get

better each and every day. That's what good football players do."

In other picks Friday:

■ The Texans selected UCLA guard Xavier Su'a-Filo, who joins the first overall pick, defensive disrupter Jadeveon Clowney of

South Carolina, in Houston. The two of them can have fun colliding against each other in minicamps and training camp. The 6-foot-4, 307-pound Su'a-Filo, who went on a Mormon mission while in college, also has played tackle.

■ The Cowboys took Boise State defensive end Demarcus Lawrence, who they hope will emulate their departed sacks leader with the same first name, DeMarcus Ware, now with Denver. "I'm my own Demarcus," Lawrence said. "I don't like to try to be nobody else. I'm going to be me, and I'm going to do it well."

■ After Washington selected Virginia tackle Morgan Moses, who was on hand at the Draft, with the 66th pick, Moses joked: "I thought my phone was broken." Several mock drafts had Moses going in the first round.

■ It took 54 selections, a draft record, for a running back to go. Bishop Sankey of Washington was chosen by the Titans, who cut Chris Johnson this spring. Two more went in the next three selections: Jeremy Hill of LSU to Cincinnati, and Carlos Hyde of Ohio State to San Francisco. Heisman Trophy finalist Tre Mason went 75th overall to St. Louis.

■ A total of 39 early entrants were selected in the first three rounds, 25 on Friday. Altogether, there were a record 102 early entrants this year. College powerhouses Oklahoma, Texas and Georgia did not have anyone chosen in the first three rounds.

Browns' Gordon facing possible 1-year suspension

By TOM WITHERS

The Associated Press

BEREA, Ohio — A day of celebration dissolved into confusion for the Browns.

Hours after quarterback Johnny Manziel's arrival had Cleveland's football pulse racing faster than it had in years, a report that star wide receiver Josh Gordon may be facing an indefinite suspension shattered the city's collective joy.

One star in, one maybe on his way out. As the second round of the NFL draft was set to open Friday, ESPN reported that Gordon, who led the NFL in yards receiving last season, had failed another drug test for marijuana and could be banned for a year. The ESPN report, based on anonymous sources, described letters the Pro Bowl receiver about the failed test.

The Browns deferred any comment on Gordon's situation to the league office. Gordon's agent, Drew Rosenhaus, declined comment.

Browns general manager Ray Farmer refused to address any specifics on Gordon's situation, which he called "a lot of speculation, supposedly news."

"We're not going to talk or comment on our player's health status of anyone who's on this roster," Farmer said, repeating a similar line several times as he was pressed by reporters.

Farmer said he'll remain silent until he has clarity from the league.

Gordon was suspended without pay for the first two games last season for violating the league's substance abuse policy



MARK DUNCAN/AP

As the second round of the NFL Draft was set to open on Friday, ESPN reported that Browns wide receiver Josh Gordon, who led the NFL in yards receiving last season, had failed another drug test for marijuana and could be banned for a year.

for the second time, but still led the league with 1,646 yards receiving in 14 games. He had 87 catches and nine touchdowns.

Gordon, who was taken in the 2012 supplemental draft, entered the league with a history of substance issues. He was excused from Baylor's team for twice failing drug tests and he also failed a test after

Did you know

Despite being suspended without pay for the first two games of last season, Browns WR Josh Gordon still managed to lead the league with 1,646 receiving yards on 87 catches.



SOURCE: The Associated Press

transferring to Utah.

Gordon was expected to be the top playmaker for either Manziel or incumbent starter Brian Hoyer.

Farmer would not comment on if the Browns were aware of Gordon's possible ban before Thursday's opening round, when they traded out of the No. 4, sending that pick to Buffalo for the No. 9 pick and a first- and fourth-round in 2015. Buffalo used the fourth selection on Clemson wide receiver Sammy Watkins.

If Gordon is suspended, the Browns are in big trouble at wide receiver. Greg Little and Nate Burleson would be the most experienced players at the position with newly signed Andrew Hawkins at the slot position.

Burleson underwent surgery last week

to fix a plate in the left arm he broke in a car accident last year when he was with Detroit.

"I'm just fine," he said in a text message to the AP. "I had a minor surgery to fix the plate in my arm so I'll be ready well before training camp. If today were the playoffs, I would be playing."

Farmer said he's not concerned about his team's depth at wide receiver.

"We play games in September, right now there's plenty of opportunity for us to acquire players and make things happen whether it's in trades or draft picks or players who get cut," he said.

The Browns were expected to address their depth at receiver before the report on Gordon surfaced. But Cleveland went in a different direction in the second round, taking 6-foot-4, 302 pound Nevada offensive tackle Joel Bitonio with the No. 35 overall pick.

The Browns passed over wide receivers — seven were drafted in the second round — again in the third, when they selected Iowa linebacker Christian Kirksey. The 6-foot-1, 233-pound player played outside linebacker last season for the Hawkeyes, but Cleveland's coaching staff envisions him playing inside.

Later, the Browns moved back into the third round and picked Towson State running back Terrance West. Cleveland sent a fourth-round (No. 106) and sixth-round (No. 180) to San Francisco for the No. 94 pick to take West, who rushed for 2,509 yards and 41 touchdowns last season.

NBA PLAYOFFS

Scoreboard

Second round

(Best-of-seven; x-if necessary)

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Miami 2, Brooklyn 0
Miami 107, Brooklyn 94
Miami 94, Brooklyn 82
Saturday: at Brooklyn
Monday: at Brooklyn
x-Wednesday: at Miami
x-Friday, May 16: at Brooklyn
x-Sunday, May 18: at Miami
Indiana 2, Washington 1
Washington 102, Indiana 96
Indiana 86, Washington 82
Friday: Indiana 85, Washington 63
Sunday: at Washington
Tuesday: at Indiana
x-Thursday: at Washington
x-Sunday, May 18: at Indiana
WESTERN CONFERENCE
San Antonio 2, Portland 0
San Antonio 116, Portland 92
San Antonio 114, Portland 97
Saturday: at Portland
Monday: at Portland
x-Wednesday: at San Antonio
x-Friday, May 16: at Portland
x-Sunday, May 18: at San Antonio
Oklahoma City 2, L.A. Clippers 1
L.A. Clippers 122, Oklahoma City 105
Oklahoma City 112, L.A. Clippers 101
Friday: Oklahoma City 118, L.A. Clippers 112
Sunday: at L.A. Clippers
Tuesday: at Oklahoma City
x-Thursday, May 15: at L.A. Clippers
x-Sunday, May 18: at Oklahoma City

Friday

Thunder 118, Clippers 112

OKLAHOMA CITY — Durant 34-24-7-7, Ibaka 9-10-2-2-0, Perkins 2-5-0-0-4, Westbrook 7-14-7-8-23, Seferoshia 0-2-1-2, N. Collins 1-1-0-2, Jackson 5-8-4-14, Adams 2-4-0-0-4, Butler 4-10-3-3-14, Fisher 1-0-0-2, Totals 48-74-24-28-118.
L.A. CLIPPERS — Barnes 6-13-1-2-14, Griffin 13-22-8-3-4, Jordan 5-8-0-10, Paul 8-16-3-2-1, Redick 1-2-2-2-4, O. Collison 0-4-0-0, Crawford 6-18-7-20, Davis 1-1-0-2, Granger 1-2-0-0-3, Dudley 1-3-0-0-3, Totals 62-93-21-25-112.

Oklahoma City 29 32 32-118
L.A. Clippers 33 30 27-112
Three-Point Goals—Oklahoma City 6-17 (Butler 3-5, Westbrook 2-3, Durant 1-4, Ibaka 0-1, Seferoshia 0-2, Jackson 0-2), L.A. Clippers 7-26 (Paul 2-6, Granger 1-1, Butler 1-2, Redick 1-4, Crawford 1-5, Barnes 1-5, D. Collison 0-1, Griffin 0-1). Fouled Out—None. Rebounds—Oklahoma City 52 (Adams 9), L.A. Clippers 42 (Jordan 11). Assists—Oklahoma City 26 (Westbrook 13), L.A. Clippers 25 (Paul 16). Total Fouls—Oklahoma City 23, L.A. Clippers 26. Technicals—Durant, Jackson, Perkins, Barnes, Paul. A.—15:53 (19:00).

Pacers 85, Wizards 63

INDIANA — George 6-15-9-10-23, West 6-14-0-12, Hibbert 5-9-2-14-4, Hill 3-6-0-9, Stephenson 4-13-0-1-9, Mahanmi 0-0-2-2, Nelson 0-3-1-2-1, Turner 2-0-0-4, Scoll 4-8-2-11, Butler 0-0-0-0-0, Totals 31-74-16-21-65.

WASHINGTON — Ariza 4-8-2-12, Nene 3-14-2-8, Gortat 2-7-0-0-4, Wall 6-13-3-15, Beal 6-19-3-16, Gooden 0-1-2-12, Webster 0-3-0-0, Miller 1-3-0-2, Temple 1-0-0-1, B. Beal 6-19-3-16, Washington 1-2-0-2, Seraphin 0-1-0-0-0, Porter Jr. 0-1-0-0-0, Totals 24-73-11-21-63.

Indiana 17 17 26-85
Washington 17 16 12-63
Three-Point Goals—Indiana 17-35 (Hill 3-5, George 2-4, Scoll 1-1, Stephenson 1-3, West 0-1, Watson 0-1), Wizards 4-16 (Ariza 2-6, Temple 1-1, Beal 1-5, Wall 0-1, Harrington 0-1, Webster 0-2). Fouled Out—None. Rebounds—Indiana 31 (Stephenson 8), Washington 56 (Ariza 15). Assists—Indiana 21 (Stephenson 5), Washington 10 (Wall 6). Total Fouls—Indiana 20, Washington 22. Technicals—Scoll. A.—20:36 (20:38).

By HOWARD FENDRICH

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — With an emphasis on defense, Paul George, Roy Hibbert and the rest of the Indiana Pacers are suddenly performing the way they did at the start of the season.

And they don't care how ugly the product might look.

Playing precisely the way they did to earn the No. 1 seed — before a late-season swoon — the Pacers held the Wizards to a franchise-low scoring total Friday night to win 85-63 and take a 2-1 lead in the Eastern Conference semifinal series.

"Listen, we don't worry about if we're looking good for TV. The other teams can't fill that void with fancy basketball. We don't worry about that," Indiana forward David West said. "We're OK with

this. We can win games in the 80s."

Set aside George's 23 points, and neither team looked good on offense. Not at all. It



George

in a row, including holding the Wizards to 82 in Game 2.

Game 4 in the best-of-seven series is Sunday night in Washington.

"This was probably the ugliest game of

Hot-shooting Thunder top Clippers

OKC pulls away late behind smaller lineup

By BETH HARRIS
The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Neither team budged through three tight quarters. Then the Thunder went to a smaller lineup in the fourth and the Clippers' defense shriveled.

Oklahoma City couldn't be stopped in the final 12 minutes and went on to a 118-112 victory Friday night to take a 2-1 lead in the Western Conference semifinals.

Kevin Durant scored 36 points, Russell Westbrook added 23 points and 13 assists, and Serge Ibaka, despite early foul trouble, had 20 points for the Thunder in a game that neither team ever led by double digits.

The Thunder have won two straight since getting blown out in Game 1 at home.

"That loss definitely wasn't our brand of basketball," Durant said. "The first game they picked us apart. We don't want to get beat like that again."

Blake Griffin scored 34 points, and Chris Paul added 21 points and 16 assists for the Clippers, who saw their four-point lead disappear for good early in the fourth quarter. Sixth Man of the Year Jamal Crawford added 20 points.

"They got everything," Clippers coach Doc Rivers said. "They got threes, layups, key second shots. Down the stretch, they made every big play. We had shots, too, and they didn't go in. We put way too much pressure on our offense because our defense wasn't working."

Oklahoma City led 113-107 on Durant's turnaround jumper with 1:23 left. It followed Westbrook's three-pointer after the Clippers had closed within 108-107 when Griffin muscled in for a layup.

"We did a good job of weathering storms throughout the game and sticking together," Durant said. "We're going to have to do that even more next game if we want to win. It's probably going to be the toughest game of the series."

Game 4 is Sunday at Staples Center.

The Thunder shot 56 percent, and controlled the paint and fastbreak points against a Clippers team that never got into their favored run-and-gun mode.

"We stayed small and they had some tough decisions to make on who to put their big in," Thunder coach Scott Brooks said. "In the fourth quarter our defense went up another level. Russell was finding guys. Everybody chipped in to help us win."



MARK J. TERRILL/AP

Oklahoma City guard Russell Westbrook, right, goes up for a shot as Clippers forward Blake Griffin, left, and guard Chris Paul defend during Game 3 of their Western Conference semifinal playoff series on Friday in Los Angeles. The Thunder won 118-112.

Wizards' offense absent in Game 3 loss to Pacers

the postseason just far. This is our style of basketball," said George. "That's what we do. Whether you like it or not... defense is what we hang our hats on."

Washington made only 24 field goals, a team postseason worst, on 73 attempts, 32.9 percent. That included 4-for-16 on threes, and it didn't get much better on free throws, where the Wizards were 11-for-21.

"A clunker," Wizards coach Randy Wittman said.

The Wizards never had scored fewer than 75 points in a playoff game — the previous low came in a first-round series-ending victory against Chicago 1½ weeks ago — or fewer than 64 in a regular-season game. The 63 points also matched the fourth-lowest total by any club since 1954-55, according to STATS.

So much for the bandwagon-hopping in Washington. There were boos on occasion,

and most of the fans started heading to the exits after George's three with 3½ minutes left made it 75-58.

The 7-foot-2 Hibbert was again a factor for Indiana at both ends, coming up with three blocks and forcing Washington's players to alter other shots. He also contributed 14 points and five rebounds.

Washington point guard John Wall had five turnovers in his previous four games, but he had seven Friday, to go along with 15 points and six assists. Trevor Ariza had 12 points, but zero in the second half. Marcin Gortat scored four points one game after having 21. And Nene had eight points on 3-for-14 shooting and only three rebounds.

"John's got to go out and play aggressive," Wittman said. "I thought he had some indecision in transition — Do I go? Do I don't go? — which gets you caught up in the air and some turnovers that way."

SPORTS

**Ranger danger**New York avoids elimination,
routs Pittsburgh | **NHL, Page 25****NFL DRAFT**

A star too bright?

Cowboys owner says no room for two celebrity QBs in Dallas

By SCHUYLER DIXON
The Associated Press

Dallas Cowboys owner and general manager Jerry Jones didn't pass on Johnny Manziel because he thinks the flashy former Heisman Trophy winner will be a bust in the NFL.

Quite the opposite.
"He's got a chance to knock it out of the park and we all know that," Jones said of Manziel, who ended up going 22nd overall to Cleveland — six spots after the Cowboys took an offensive lineman in the first round for the third time in four years.

Even with that high praise, Jones reiterated that he didn't think Manziel could beat out Romo.

But he sees Johnny Foot-

ball on equal footing with the guy who dated Jessica Simpson and Carrie Underwood in his early days as the Dallas starter before settling down with a wife and two kids.

"He's Elvis Presley," Jones said of the former Texas A&M star.

And the Dallas owner basically said there's no room for two celebrities under center for the Cowboys.

Jones had no concerns about the 34-year-old Romo accepting Manziel and bringing the young quarterback along. The marketing-savvy businessman also was well aware of what kind of circus would have come to town — and probably stayed for at least three years.

"There's just too much dynamic here for him, for the franchise, for everybody," Jones said. "That's just too much for insurance, and it's not the usual development guy behind an accomplished

quarterback."

Jones said he wasn't tempted to take Manziel at No. 16, where the Cowboys grabbed Notre Dame offensive tackle Zack Martin.

That's not to say Jones wasn't intrigued.

"Now he's the kind of guy who will change your plans and change your direction in my mind," Jones said. "He is that good, and can make that kind of difference. I'm anxious to see how and what he does in the NFL."

That leaves just one other question. If Manziel is Elvis, who is Romo?

"George Strait," Jones says, flashing a wide grin.

Ever the salesman, of course.

The country music star is set for a farewell concert at Jones' \$1.2 billion stadium on June 7.

More draft coverage:

- Two quarterbacks chosen in second round, Page 29



'He's Elvis Presley.'

Jerry Jones
Cowboys owner, left, on former Texas A&M star Johnny Manziel, right. Many thought Dallas could draft the Heisman-winning QB with the 16th overall pick. Instead, Jones passed on Manziel, who fell to the Cleveland Browns at No. 22.



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